

***A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments
American Bikers Aiming Toward Education***



ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.

PALM BEACH CHAPTER

THE Chrome Chronicles

ISSUE 92 2013-04

ABATEPALMBEACH.COM

APRIL 2013

ABATE
of Florida Inc



**NEXT
CHAPTER
MEETING
11:30 AM
THIRD
Sunday
April 21**

**CHECK TWICE
FOR MOTORCYCLES**

**LET THOSE
WHO RIDE
DECIDE!**



Most people reading this are familiar with ABATE's role in overturning Florida's Mandatory Helmet law. But some people have confused this role and assumed that ABATE is anti-helmet. We are not. ABATE is simply pro-choice when it comes to helmets. We as a group believe that it is the individual rider's **right to choose** the type of gear he or she wears, if at all. In addition, we are also very much pro-safety.

But, as always, the best kind of choice is an informed choice. In this article, I will explore motorcycle helmets. In my research, most of the stuff I found was as expected, but some was quite shocking. Read on to see what I mean.

When I took my Florida required Motorcycle Safety Foundation Basic Rider Course, in addition to a lot of good information, the instructor threw in this: "Only helmetless riders get killed." That seemed a bit odd, but I've found it a bad idea to argue with instructors so I let it slide. Since then, I've come to know quite a few riders wearing helmets that got killed on a bike - usually when a cager did something wrong. The instructor's unofficial comments proved to be the first in a long string a myths regarding helmets that I would hear over the years.

(continued on page 6)

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The submission deadline for all material for publication is after the third weekend of month or earlier

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ABATE of Florida Inc

Palm Beach Chapter

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West Palm Beach, FL 33420-2215

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POKER RUN

Riding for a Cure...

The American Cancer Society

Saturday, April 6

Ride Begins at Dynasty Cycles
12140 Wilco Road, Coral Springs 33071 954-352-1450

Sign Up: 9:30am at Dynasty Cycles
Kick Stands Up: 11am
Finish - Lefty's Tavern & Grille, Coral Springs

\$20 Per Bike to Ride

Winner with high hand \$300 (\$100 for non-riders)
Worst Hand \$50 (\$25 for non-riders)
(Additional cards available for purchase)

Pre-register and receive an extra card!

Pre-register at Dynasty Cycles or online at:
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SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2013
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Gator Alley Chapter

CASINO RUN

SUNDAY APRIL 7TH, 2013

Get your Maverick on!

"Maverick" Themed Wardrobe Competition - Win prizes for His & Hers Best 'ole Western "Maverick" Costume!

1ST BIKE OUT: 9:00AM - LAST BIKE OUT: 10:00AM
HOT CABOOSE: 27755 Old 41 Road, Bonita Springs, Florida 34135
(Breakfast Available 8:00 am - Special Breakfast Price for Ride Participants)

LAST BIKE IN: 3:00 PM | THE TAVERN, 11397 Tamiami Trail E, Naples, Florida 34113
EVENT ENDS: 4:00pm

\$10.00 PER HAND - MUSIC - PRIZES - DRAWINGS

For More Information:
Jim Calvin: 239.280.6054
Scott and Deb: 239.298.0924

www.gatoralley.net

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ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. (VIA GATOR ALLEY) CHAPTER DOES NOT CONDONE
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POKER RUN

APRIL 27

FBO FROM H-D PB

DETAILS TBA

BENEFITS

RENAISSANCE
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ABATE of Florida, Inc Mission Statement

WHO WE ARE

We are 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, & political awareness. We ARE NOT A CLUB OR A GANG. We fund our work through events, toy runs, poker runs, campouts, and other motorcycle activities. We are your neighbors & 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. We are Pro-choice NOT anti– helmet

OUR GOALS

To become a powerful and viable political force in legislative matters concerning the motorcyclist.
To promote the safe riding habits without infringing on individual freedoms.
To motivate the bikers to write letters to legislators before, during, and after the legislative session.
To furnish a newsletter to keep all bikers informed in regards to upcoming legislation.

MEMBERSHIP

When you become a member of ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. you are helping make a difference in the ongoing mission to protect your right to ride and enjoy the motorcycle of your choice, your choice of riding apparel, and when and where you can ride a motorcycle. These are issues that are real and present in today's "protect yourself from yourself" political environment. This holds true for all levels of government. There will always be those who see our love for motorcycling as a negative and will try any means to control and if possible prohibit motorcycle use.

On the local level our members get out the vote and support candidates who are sympathetic to our issues. We also will endeavor to lobby local governments whenever there are issues that need to be addressed, affecting local motorcycle use, ownership, and any discrimination that may result from said use of ownership.

At the state level we have a paid registered lobbyist who regularly visits our state capital in Tallahassee to lobby our legislators on the issues concerning the motorcycling public in Florida. He also finds reliable House and Senate sponsors for the bills we support. On the national level we are aligned with Motorcycle Riders Foundations (MRF), and the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM), along with several other international motorcycle rights organizations (MRO's).

As one can see we have our ear to the ground and our resolve tempered like steel. As Americans we have had it demonstrated to us time and again the vigilance is armor of free men and women. We shall not let the armor rust or weaken. With your support we can re-enforce and strengthen the armor for now and generations to come.

What else do you get with your membership? All members receive with their paid membership, the Masterlink Newsletter, Membership Card, Event Discounts and Updates, Voting Privileges, Free Masterlink Classified Advertisements, a Chapter Newsletter, and a free \$4,000 Accidental Death or Dismemberment Insurance Policy from the American Income Life Insurance Company.

President's Message "Nighthawk"

Another Bike week has come and gone in Daytona. Once again a great time was had by all who attended and stayed at the ABATE campground. I was up for both weekends and on each weekend was a different crowd. I'd like to thank those who attended.. The campground is an important part of ABATEs financial stability, so it's a help to the cause. This month is Leesburg Bikefest and I hope you are making your plans to come camp and party with the chapter. Lake county chapter runs the campground at the Eagles lodge. We had a great time last year. For those that don't do the camping thing, I can understand it's not as comfortable as a hotel. Camping together as a chapter increases the bond of brotherhood and also financially helps the organization. I myself had always enjoyed the comforts of a good hotel room until my first time at the ABATE campground. Since then I've camped there for Bike Week and the same for the Leesburg campground. The fun you have partying at the campground with your ABATE brothers and sisters makes up for the lost creature comforts. So come once all you'll start putting that hotel money into better camping gear!



Well June is fast approaching, so you know what that means. It's almost time for elections and our June event. This year's event will be at Renegades June 23rd. So be sure to mark it on your calendar. This is an important event for our chapter. This and our December event are the biggest money makers for the chapter. This is what keeps the chapter afloat, so I hope you'll be letting all your friends and family know about it! I'll have more details for you next month.

As always, I'd like to thank everyone who attends the group rides and volunteers their time to help out. This is what makes this chapter function. The more people that show for the rides, the more fun we have. So I hope you'll be there!

Well until next month, ride safe and watch your asses out there.

Ed "Nighthawk" Lattari President ABATE Palm Beach

president@abatepalmbeach.com 561-309-5412

UPCOMING Group Fun Rides/Event Schedule

April 6 Saturday GROUP FUN RIDE Black Pistons MC Annual

April 21 Sunday Chapter Meeting

April 21 Sunday GROUP FUN RIDE AOA MC WPB Party (after our regular chapter meeting)

April 26-28 Leesburg Bikefest

CHECK CALENDAR FOR ALL EVENTS GOING ON!

Schedule subject to change. Stay up date with the text alert system! Get meeting spots and last minute updates! Text "Name and Add me" and your name to 561-309-5412 now!

HELMETS IT'S ALL ABOUT THE ODDS (continued from Cover)

The basic facts are this: Helmets improve your odds of surviving an accident and reduce your chance of head injury. **What they do not do is make a rider indestructible.** Notice the words "odds" and "chance". Its all about statistics.

No one can say for a fact that you will or wont be killed if you don't wear a helmet. When talking about helmets, its important to know the facts and how to use those facts to better protect yourself.

Head Impact Zones

When a lot of people think about head injuries on motorcycles, they tend to think of Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI's), but there is a lot more to your head than just a brain. Most head injuries are not fatal and do not involve brain injury.

It turns out that if you go down, you have about a 45% chance of smashing your chin, face and ears. This can mean missing teeth, broken jaws, torn ears and probably a lot of cosmetic surgery to put it back the way it was.

Although nasty, it's not usually fatal.

The most fatal deadly impacts are those above the brow line. This accounts for only about 38% of the impacts. A half shell helmet is what would protect this area.

But let me explain exactly what that 38% means. Its just a statistical probability. That is, if you wear a half shell helmet, and you go down and hit your head, the odds that the helmet will protect you in any way is only 38%. Doing the math tells you that you've got a 62% chance that the half shelled helmet will be useless in an accident.

As far as helmets go, the half shell is the least protective. The three quarter shell adds protection to the back of your head and the odds that it will help in an accident are about 55%. Add a visor and the odds increase to about 66%.



HELMET TYPES



Half Shell



Three Quarter



Three Quarter
w/Face Shield



Full Face

The best protection comes with full face helmets and modular helmets operated in full face mode. These cover 100% of your head and they will always help in some way if you hit your head in an accident.

(continued next page)

What helmets do and don't do.

The most important thing to know about helmets is that wearing one will not make you indestructible. The bad thing is that a lot of people mistakenly call them “Crash” helmets. They are not. Oh, they will help, but they were not designed to save you in a crash. None of them are.

Motorcycle helmets are only designed to save you if you fall off your bike. I mean that literally. It can be at any speed, but we are primarily talking about low sides and simple high sides here. The impact test speed is only about 15 mph which is the approximate vertical speed your head will be going if you fall off your bike head first.

So if you crash head first into a cager at 75 mph, its a safe bet that you're dead meat with or without a helmet. But this isn't to say that helmets are worthless over 15mph. Helmets also provide protection from road rash on your head. And even head first impacts can sometimes end up grazing the object and not be direct impacts – such as flying into a cager's sloped windshield.

Even if you do crash head first into something at a speed greater than 15 mph, the damage to your head will be less than it would be if you didn't have a helmet. This may mean the difference between surviving and not surviving, but sadly, in serious cases, it just means the difference between an open and a closed casket funeral.

One other thing is road debris and bug protection. I can't count how many times I have been hit in the visor by a small rock from a passing truck or a giant dragonfly. I can only imagine that those things would have hurt if I didn't have a visor.

The Bad Side of Helmets

I have heard two major arguments against helmets. These are, increased neck injuries and decreased vision.

I was not able to find any conclusive data that supports an increase in neck fractures. While bikers with helmets do sustain neck injuries, there is nothing that suggests that they wouldn't have sustained the same neck injury if they had not been wearing a helmet.

In both cases, there have been whiplash-like injuries from a biker rolling during a low side. Some bikers have been taught to roll if they low side to minimize road rash. While this does reduce road rash, it also greatly increases the chance of a neck injury. The injury is more likely with the extra weight of the helmet, but people not wearing helmets tend to be more likely to roll, so statistically, it's a wash.

But contrary to some claims, helmets do reduce a rider's vision. The pro-helmet law folks are quick to point out that helmets are required to be designed to not limit peripheral vision, but they leave out the part about not being able to see as good when you turn your head. If you never needed to turn your head, your peripheral vision would be fine with most helmets. But because of the shear bulk of the helmet, the rider is not able to turn his head as far as he would if he wasn't wearing a helmet. The result is that the rider's total field of vision is reduced while wearing a helmet. To a lesser extent, chin guards can also restrict a rider's view of the instruments. While half shell helmets don't interfere with a rider's vision, they don't protect as well either.

Buying a Helmet

There are different kinds of helmets, but if you decide to buy one, I recommend getting a modular helmet. Modular helmets are sometimes called flip-up helmets. The face shield and chin guard flip up and out of the way which make putting them on very easy. If you need to eat or drink something, then all you need to do is flip the front and go to it. When riding, flip it down and your head is 100% covered.

In addition, most modular helmets come with a retractable inner sun visor. Its basically like having automatic sunglasses. But the most important thing to consider is to get a helmet that is comfortable. If it is too tight or doesn't fit right, then you will be looking for excuses not to wear it. Having said that, you should not buy any helmet that you have not personally tried on. Buying online might seem cheaper, but when you add up all the return shipping charges, they usually aren't.

(continued page 9)

MODULAR HELMETS



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Makes it easy to put on



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HELMETS IT'S ALL ABOUT THE ODDS (continued from page 7)

Another thing to avoid are cheap Chinese helmets. These are the ones that are usually sold for less than \$100. These are the class of helmets that are the most likely to not fit right, the most likely to cause you a problem in some way and the most likely to fail in an accident. **The DOT, by the way, just takes their word for it and doesn't require any proof that they passed testing.**

But the basic rule is that if it doesn't fit in the store, then its not going to fit at home either. Don't fall for the "helmets shrink over time so its OK if its a little tight now" bull. Its true that the internal foam will shrink over time, but its at most 10% and it takes years. So if its too tight, then its too tight. If you buy one, buy one that fits good before you take it home.

Conclusion

Thanks to ABATE, helmet use in Florida is a choice and not a requirement. Being allowed to make that choice is one of the main reasons why I joined ABATE. My choice is to always wear a helmet because I believe the positives outweigh the negatives. But whether you choose to wear one or not is entirely your business. I hope that this article will help people make an informed choice.

Ride safe and ride smart,
Dennis "Data" Hawkins.

Have you seen this?

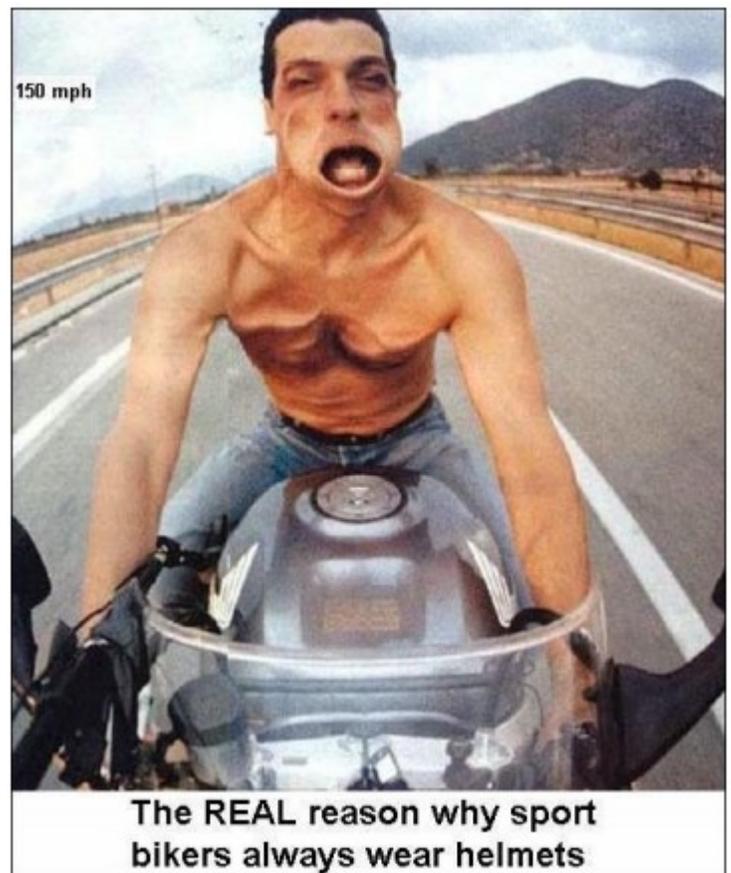
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<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t6NpSgSU7-8>

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The kids were riding unlicensed dirt bikes on the street. The cops response: kill them.

Data.



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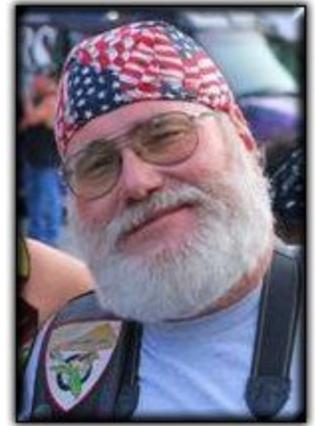
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Vice President's Message

Dan "Slo Motion" Henderson



Normally my job working as computer tech in a school is pretty good about getting time off and the vacation breaks are great. But when The FCAT testing comes there is no way I can take a day off. Again the FCAT comes during ABATE's April meeting and Tallahassee Ride to the Capital. So I am glad that Charlie and Debbie Wenger will be there to join Kenny at the state meeting and visiting our representatives' offices. I will miss the opportunity to take that grand ride into and up on the Capital steps. Kenny is towing up his bike so that leaves an empty bike slot and a paid hotel room with him. I heard one member is thinking of going and I hope someone does take this chance to do this event.

I decided to bring back from the past for this VP message my *Travels with Smiley* article. Homage to John Steinbeck's *Travels with Charley* but replace his poodle Charley with my bike Smiley. I had decided to ride bike to Daytona Bikeweek. On the first weekend, I departed Friday morning just a bit ahead of Nighthawk and his toy hauler. Good if I had any problems on I-95 he good get me. Only problem I had was a wardrobe malfunction when my vest unbuttoned. The wild flapping caused a pit stop at rest station to fix. It was great to finally have a working gas gauge. I filled up in Delray and made it to the Palm Bay-Malabar exit before the needle hit E. Only used 3 gallons but felt safer knowing, now if only knew the mileage

So I still made it to the campground before Nighthawk almost at noon when supposed to open. The line was long with RVs and trailers. So I rode up to see what was the story. Things were running late so I parked bike and joined the person line to get in. Called Nighthawk and he was not far behind and Charley & Deb not far behind him. So they came and joined the line then we went in to the area Nighthawk planned. Now this was my first time at the ABATE campground. We set up camp and then waited for the kitchen to get a bite. Later Misty drove up and joined us and also a couple from her work. Friday was for unwinding and warming up as temperatures dropped.

Saturday morning was not getting together as I had hoped. While everyone was showering and getting together, I took off for breakfast at Gram's Kitchen in Deland, a great dinner. As I was leaving they all came in. So I rode over to Eustis for the Vintage Bike Show alone. It was a great little ride to an area I know as my uncle lies near the Lake County Fairgrounds where it was held. I enjoyed looking around and meeting a lot of interesting people. I found a few items to buy, unfortunately two vintage card sets I purchased I had already—see classified page 38. But I did score the Harley Series 1 I needed to go with my series 2 and 3 for only \$10 as usually only seen for much more. Then I rode back and into the Deland Bikefest. I like this smaller event and plan on making it a staple of my Bikekweek plans. I did discover from the girls handing out flyers of a local strip club near the campground so Snooze would be happy the next weekend. So I was now behind of the group as they had been there and back to campground so I joined them there. After away we rode over to US 1 area and Iron Horse. Hung there a bit and some over across the road. Usually that is where I like to go but continue down all the way to the Broken Spoke. But they wanted to go downtown. So we went and I remember why I don't go, the crowds were packed even on the first weekend. It was a job just to wheel Charlie down and back. The ride back to the campground was freezing and it was good to get back to a camp fire.

Sunday I broke down my tent and left my gear in Charlie's truck as everybody was riding home, leaving the RVs there to hold our spot for the second weekend. Charley and Deb rode to meet some friends up there, Ed and Misti hung around and I rode back. I took my sweet time coming back as feeling the wear and tear. I stopped at Space Coast Harley off the I95 Palm Bay exit. They had a band, hot bikini bike wash, and the prettiest female Employees. My camera was busy.

For the second weekend we had a larger group riding back up. Myself, Nighthawk and Misti, Charley and Debbie were joined by Snooze, Kris and her daughter Billie, and two ex-army Steve and Phil. They used Nighthawk's trailer to bring their bikes. While waiting I topped off my oil but put in too much. Billie had the idea of using straws to get some out but was working slow until Kris got a turkey baster to suck in out, nice having clever girls around.

On the way up we made two gas stops and a food stop. At one gas Debbie over fueled and was leaking gas so the over flow was beginning to look like a theme. After Kris and Billie left us to go to their campground, we made it to the ABATE campground. While everyone was just hanging out that night, Kenny (Snooze) and I checked out the club. Glad it was close as was getting cold again on ride back.

Saturday we hung around the campground. We stayed for the big cash drawing but none of us won. Charley was busy at the safety booth most of the weekend. The rest of us rode over to the Cabbage patch to see the coleslaw wrestling. Kenny and I split from the rest as we checked out the vendors, getting some deals. I found the mirrors I was looking for. WE all untied and rode back to the camp site. After we got my new mirrors on I decided to ride to the entrance to get a new enter tag, but leaving our site I hit the first curve, hit some sugar sand and the bike stopped and fell over on my leg. Nighthawk saw the whole thing, yelled "Biker down" and ran over with Steve and Phil to get the bike off me. I bruised my hip and leg pretty bad, could barely stand let alone walk. Might have bruised a rib too. The bike, Smiley, was fine, just a scratch on new mirror. After filling out all the incident reports I began to ice the knee as it was swelling. After awhile the group rode into Deland to get dinner, thank you again Nighthawk for getting one for me. After awhile Charley returned to his safety table duty and the rest rode back to Daytona. I remained at the campfire icing my knee. After awhile of listening to the karaoke drifting across the campground and rustling in the woods behind me, I decide time to get to bed early and elevate my leg for the night. Charley had stopped by to check on me and figured I was okay when he heard me snoring. I was woke several hours later as the bikes returned and rod close to my tent. But I returned to sleep. In the morning I could hobble around a bit as we broke down our camp site. Smiley, my bike, was loaded into Nighthawk's toy hauler and I and my gear loaded into Phil's truck for the ride home. They dropped me off in Delray on their way home to Boca Raton.

Now two weeks later my leg is almost back to normal so need to get out to Nighthawk's nest and get my bike for another *Travels with Smiley*.

You can see all my photos from both weekends on BikerOnlineGuide.com and the ABATE one s on our site.

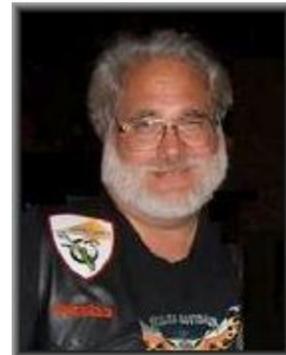




DELEGATE REPORT

“Snooze”
Ken Gerecke

“Slo Motion”
Dan Henderson




ABATE of Florida, Inc.

18th ANNUAL FREEDOM RIGHTS RALLY

April 12 - 15, 2013

State Meeting Sunday April 14th at 2:00 pm
State Board Meeting Sunday April 14th at Noon
Monticello, Florida • American Legion Hall • 1065 S. Water St. • Monticello, FL 32344

Ride to the Capitol Monday April 15
from Monticello KOA Campground at 9:00am

STAND UP FOR YOUR RIGHTS!

Free Tent Camping • Membership & Safety Information Available
RV Hookups Available from KOA • Cabins \$150 (3 night event price)

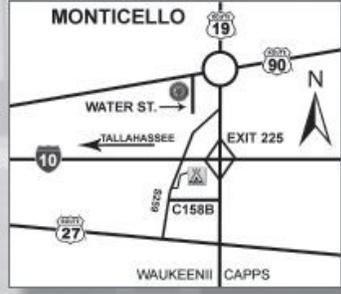
KOA Campground • 346 KOA Road • Monticello, FL 32344
Located at exit 225 at I-10 in Monticello, call 850-997-3890 for directions only. 20 miles east of Tallahassee & 6 miles SW of Monticello.
From I-10 at US19 proceed south 600 feet, then west on CR 158B for 2 miles, then north on SR 259 for 1/2 mile. Follow the signs.

American Legion Hall
Go 2 blocks west of the Opera House on US90, then turn west on Waters Street. Go 1/2 mile to Legion Hall.

Reservations for RV Hookups (Pop-Up Campers, Vans and RV's) need to be made through the KOA Campground. Call 850-997-3890 for reservations. RV sites are limited.

For cabin reservations or for more information contact ABATE of Florida, Inc. State Office:
(386) 943-9610 (fax same) email flabate@bellsouth.net

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



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of Justice.



PERSONAL INJURY

- Auto Accidents
- Motorcycle / Bicycle Accidents
- Bus Accidents
- Wrongful Death Litigation
- Medical Malpractice
- Construction Accidents
- Pedestrian Accidents
- Slip & Fall Accidents and Premises Liability
- Product Liability
- Nursing Home Negligence
- Dog Bites

ADMIRALTY & MARITIME

- Boat Accidents
- Yacht and Jet Ski Accidents
- Cruise Ship Injuries
- Crew Member Injuries



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ABATE of Florida, Inc **Lake** County Chapter
 Presents -- Open to Everyone
CAMPING for Leesburg BikeFest™

Campground is located off of Hwy 27 & CR 48 ~4.5 miles S from downtown LSBG. Coming from N on 27 pass CR 33 & Turn Right at the gas station, by the lite. Coming from the S on 27, turn left at the lite onto CR48, look for the signs.

RVs are Welcome \$20. & Trailers \$10. 1 time fee
NO hook ups- NO Reservations- Cash Only

*** 24 Hour security**
*** Hot showers**
*** VENDORS**
***Bike Blessing**

DATES: April 25, 26, 27, 28, 2013
WHERE: 27150 Haywood Worm Farms Rd Okahumpka 34762 Eagles Aerie # 4273
TIME: gates open Thurs am **NO Early arrivals**
 Gates close Sunday at noon.
COST: \$13.per person, per nite -Includes Tax
 Kids 12 & under FREE –
 *Inquire about free night camping
We can NOT accept reservations – CASH ONLY
 ABATE of FL, Inc, Lake County's web: <http://lake.abateflorida.com/>

*** Live band Thurs- Fri & Sat**
*** Hot Dogs Fri @ 9 by Tiki Hut**
*** Sat, Poker Run**
<http://www.leesburgbikefest.com>
***Blood Mobile**

ABATE OF FLORIDA, Inc. Lake County Chapter and its affiliates of the Leesburg BikeFest ABATE campground will not be held responsible (financially or other wise) for any adverse weather conditions that may affect, delay or cancel any scheduled performance-event described herein this promotional flyer.

Breakfast Buffet/Supper –
Beverages & Entertainment available at Eagles --

Take-A-Break Poker Run-
 Saturday sign up outside of the ABATE campground from 9:30-11. Cost is \$10 pp

NO individual site fires
 NO Weapons
 NO Pets
 NO Attitudes
 NO EXCEPTIONS

Chapter Pres: Griz 352-742-7754 President@LAKE.abateflorida.com
 Chapter VP: Tuna 352-409-1919 VPLakeABATE@emberqmail.com

Donations to ABATE of Florida, Inc are not deductible for Federal Income Tax purposes. ABATE of Florida, Inc does not condone drinking & riding. <http://lake.abateflorida.com> -- Visit our Membership & Safety Booth

ABATE of Florida, Inc is a not for profit organization of motorcycle enthusiasts from all walks of life. We lobby & educate the government & the general public to promote motorcycling in a safe & positive image. We endeavor to enlist the cooperation & participation of all organizations & individuals that share a similar interest in preserving our American tradition of FREEDOM. We promote motorcycle safety, training, & political awareness. We ARE NOT A CLUB OR A GANG. We lend our work through toy runs, poker runs, carports, & other motorcycle activities. We are your neighbors & friends who work, pay taxes, & get involved with our community. We serve & support our country & believe in freedom. We use all legal means to protect our rights without infringing on the rights of others.

ABATE of Florida, Inc
 Seminole County & Nature Coast Chapters
 Present the

MOVED AND IMPROVED
Mainstreet Campground

LESS THAN 3 MILES FROM DOWNTOWN LEESBURG!!!!

Leesburg Bikefest April 26th - April 28th, 2013
 Royal Order of Moose, Lodge # 1271,
 1512 SR44, Leesburg, FL 34748

Gates open 12 noon Thursday, April 25th
Gates close 12 noon Sunday, April 28th
All campers must exit by 1:00pm

Tent camping: \$13 (+tax) Per person, Per night
 RV Camping: \$13 (+tax) Per person, Per night + one time \$10 RV fee. (no hookups)

Vendors, Hot Showers, Restaurant and Full Bar on Premises. 24 HOUR SECURITY
ABSOLUTELY NO PETS! NO EXCEPTIONS
Service animals only with documentation.

I-75 to the Wildwood Exit (SR44) Follow SR44 11.5 miles to Moose Lodge on right For more camping/vendor information Contact Follow Mychelle 407-719-2108 Or Lisa 352-362-6452 Credit cards NOT accepted
 Safety/Membership information available

Donations to ABATE of Florida, Inc. are not deductible for federal income tax purposes
 ABATE of Florida, Inc. does not condone drinking and driving

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 ~ LABOR RATE \$50 HR ~

4592 GROVE STREET
 WEST PALM BEACH FL 33415

TUESDAY - FRIDAY 10A-7P
 SATURDAY 10A-5P
 CLOSED SUNDAY & MONDAY

The Chapter is planning to attend Leesburg Bikefest and stay at the ABATE Lake County campground. We had a great time last year and looking for more members to join us. Great affordable food at the Eagles and with bar and music. Watch for notices in email and text alerts. Contact Nighthawk for further information. See you there!

United Bikers Council of Palm Beach Co. Events

APRIL

06 Black Pistons MC Annual
21 AOA WPB party
26-28 Leesburg Bikefest

MAY

18 USMV MC PB Annual

JUNE

09 Wings of Gold MC PB Annual

JULY

07 AOA MC WPB Annual
14 States MC Lake Worth party

SEPTEMBER

21 Latin Ryderz MC Annual

OCTOBER

18-20 Biketoberfest
26 Alternatives MC Annual

SFPC BROWARD EVENTS

APRIL

06 USMV MC Martin Co. party
07 States MC Pompano Annual
13 Mystic 7 MC party
20 Outcast MC Annual

MAY

05 Southern MC Annual
11 Wings of Gold PSL Chili Cook OFF
18 Wings of Gold MC Miami Annual
Southeast ABATE Memorial Day Event

JUNE

02 AOA MC Teasure Coast Party
08 New Attitudes MC Annual
15 AOA Jerry & Roger 1%er Memorial
22 ABATE Palm Beach party
23 Wings of Gold MC Ft. Laud Annual
30 USMV MC Broward party

JULY

06 Wheels of Man MC IRC Annual
07 AOA MC WPB Annual
14 States MC Lake Worth party
20 Wheels of Man MC Chili Cook Off
28 Soldiers for Jesus MC Annual

AUGUST

03 Wings of Gold MC Miami party
8-18 Sturgis Bikeweek
9-11 South Florida Tattoo Expo
11 AOA MC 45th Anniversary party
25 Wings of Gold MC PSL Annual

SEPTEMBER

07 Outcast MC party
08 States Pompano MC Key West Party
19-22 Peterson's Key West Poker Run
22 Southern MC Teddy Bear Run & party
29 Keltics MC party

OCTOBER

02 Mystic 7 MC Annual
06 Rough Riders MC Annual
12 New Attitudes Party
13 ABATE Southeast party
18-20 Biketoberfest
26 Wheels of Man Deerfield Halloween party
17 Alternative MC PB Annual

NOVEMBER

03 AOA MC Treasure Coast Annual
09 USMV MC CH 1 Annual
09 CMA Memorial Event
16 Soldiers for Jesus MC party
17 Wings of Gold MC PB party
24 USMV MC Martin Co. Toy Run

DECEMBER

01 ABATE Palm Beach party
08 SFPC Toys in the Sun Run
14 Toy Run Bike Drawing Peterson's HD
14 Hermandad MC Alfredo Pena Memorial Run
14 Wings of Gold MC WPB Toy Run
15 Wings of Gold MC Miami Wild Santa Toy Run
21 SFLCOC Christmas party
22 Calvary Chapel Christmas Service



Boo's Bike Detailing

I'll clean up your bike like you would -
if you had the time...

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Wash, dry, detail and protect all
surfaces including leather seats,
bags and tires - \$50.00

WEEKLY EVENTS

Mon Jam Night at Turn 3 with Stet & T3JB

3rd Mon Johnny Q Bike Night

1st Tues Iron Cross Bike Night

2nd Tues Connolly's Bike Night

2nd Tues Lugnugs Bike Night at Boonies

Tues Lone Legion MC Brotherhood Open House

Wed Island Jack's Bike Nite

Wed States MC Lake Worth Open House 8pm

Wed Chit Chat's bike nite 7pm Free BBQ, music

1st Thurs Renegades Bike Night

3rd Thurs H-D Palm Bch Bike Nite 5-10PM

Every Thursday Mickey's Jam Nite 9-1

Thurs Dinner 6:30 States MC Pompano Clubhouse

Thurs Black Pistons MC WPB Open House

Fri Outlaws MC WPB Open House at 7PM

1st Fri Soldiers for Jesus Open House 7-10PM

1st Fri Enforcers MC Party

Sat Wings of Gold MC West Palm open house—1st Sat Open House Party

Sat Fly-In Wheels MC WPB open house

Sat FREE hot dogs & soda's H-D Palm Bch, 10-2

Sun Rack n Roll Top Hat Billiards Jupiter

Sun Bucket Specials, Free Food, music at Mickey's

Sun Flossie's Famous Tiki Hut Biker Sunday

3rd Sun USMVMC Palm Bch Open House

STATE MEETINGS

2013 - Host Chapter

April 12 Tallahassee Capital Ride

June 14 Southwest

August 9 West Coast

October 11 Hillsborough Spooks n Scoots

Dec. 13 Treasure Coast

Saturday April 13 Diner in Paradise at the V.F.W. Post 4143 at 2404 Broadway (US-1) Riviera Bch. 1 block south of Blue Heron Blvd. on the east side. \$8 meal roasted pig or catfish call Janice "Mama Bird".

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Best Entertainment!



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SPORTS BAR

YOUR SPORTS HEADQUARTERS

TURN 3 SPORTS BAR

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Boca Raton
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FUN

In Memory of Brent 

MUSIC & FUN SCHEDULE

Monday Jam Night hosted by Stet Blancett, T3JB (Turn3 jam band)

Sunday, Karaoke with "Michelle"

Every Tuesday - 8-Ball pool tournament

Every Wed, Texas Hold Em with Dealer Dave

Every Thursday, Dart Grab Bag

LIVE MUSIC SCHEDULE:

Fri & Sat April	5 & 6	Double Standard
Fri & Sat April	12 & 13	Jack Flash
Fri & Sat April	19 & 20	TBA
Fri & Sat April	26 & 27	Final Notice

This is one of the BEST Jam nites in SoFla!!

Turn3@comcast.net Draft Beer Happy Hr - 11am to 7pm, \$7.50 pitchers

www.turn3sportsbar.com \$1.75 pints, \$1.50 mug - Everything Else HH 4 til 7

Located in the Sandalfoot Square shopping plaza, So. of Palmetto Park Road on the East side of 441

22nd annual chili cook off

and 9th saddletime mike's poker run

Presented by:
The Palm Beach Harley Owners Group
and
Harley-Davidson® Of Palm Beach

DATE
APRIL 14
RAIN OR SHINE
11-5pm

Enter to WIN these (and more) Classic Movie Posters at H-DPS® Chili Booth

Did Someone Say "CHILI!"

To enter the Chili Contest call 561-659-4131 or email Kathleen@HarleyofPalm.com

Harley-Davidson of Palm Beach

CHILI COOK OFF
22nd 11-5pm
APRIL 14
RAIN OR SHINE

ACTION HAIR DRIVE
PRESENTED BY

Tam & Diane from Barber's Barber Shop in LW will be on site collecting ponytails and providing regular cuts for donations!

For All Your Insurance Needs Call Leslie Kay's 866-367-1788 LeslieKays.com

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ON SITE PET ADOPTION

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Vendors* Music Food

Chili Teams Compete For \$1250 in Prizes & Will Be Blind Judged By Local Chefs

Saddletime Mike's Memorial POKER RUN

\$10 per Hand
3 for \$20 Extra Cards \$2
\$150 1st / \$100 2nd / \$50 3rd

SADDLETIME MAGAZINE
Volume 11
It's About The Ride

Stop 1: Service Motorcycle Parts & Service (Riviera Bch)

Stop 2: TIKI (Riviera Bch)

Stop 3: SPORTS PAGE (WPB)

Stop 4: (WPB)

Stop 5: HARLEY-DAVIDSON (WPB)

Lugnuts Customs 561-795-3343 / Directions from I-95: E on Blue Heron Blvd, Rt on Australian Ave. Rt on W 13th St, Bay 11

The HELP DESK *with Uncle Grumpy*

Dear Uncle Grumpy,

I've been living with my girlfriend for three years. I really love her. The only thing is, her butt is always so cold its like sleepin' with an iceberg. What can I do about it?

Cory S. - Delray

Cory,

Her ass is big enough to sink the Titanic, so it doesn't surprise me. Time to push her out to sea, bro.

~

Dear Uncle Grumpy,

I'm an electrician, but times are tough, and work ain't too regular. I took a job at Walmart to help make ends meet, but all I could get was the graveyard shift. Now all the folks in my condo won't leave me alone. They keep asking about whats going on at Walmart. Its starting to piss me off. What should I do?

Eddy C. - Lake Worth

Eddy,

What happens late at night at Walmart that so many folks want to know?

~

Dear Uncle Grumpy,

My significant other has always worn a 42 long, but now, all I'm hearing about is how the sizes must have changed since the 42 longs don't fit any more. What's up with that?

Chris M. - Jupiter

Chris,

Are we talkin' about mens jacket size or ladies bra size?

~

Dear Uncle Grumpy,

I can't decide which bird to get. I really like cockatiels, but since my ol' man moved out, I've got extra space, so was thinking about something bigger like a maccaw. I can't decide. Help!

Angie W. - West Boca

Angie,

Personally, I think cockatiels are a little skimpy. If you're planning to have any folks over, I'd roast up a nice fat maccaw with curry and rice stuffing. Add some chunked mixed veggies, sweet potato and home cooked bisquits as side dishes and you'll have some real good fixin's. A meal like that is sure to put a feather in your cap.

Need advice? Send your cards and letters to Uncle Grumpy in care of ABATE Palm Beach, or email Uncle Grumpy at writeunclegrumpy@gmail.com. If your question is selected, it will appear here with Uncle Grumpy's timely and valuable commentary.

Consumer Reports Motorcycle Survey Results Are In

~~~~~ MAY IS MOTORCYCLE MONTH ~~~~~

## CR's First-Ever Motorcycle Reliability Survey Rates Harley-Davidson and BMW As Less Reliable Than Japanese Bikes

From the March, 2013 issue of Motorcycle Cruiser

It's no secret that Harley-Davidson has come a long way since the 1970s and 80s, when its products were seen by many as largely maintenance-intensive and unreliable. It may come as a surprise then, to hear that its current bikes are repair-prone (relative to other brands) according to findings just published in Consumer Reports' first-ever motorcycle reliability survey.

The Consumer Reports National Research Center reports that about one in four owners of Harley motorcycles reported experiencing a major problem in the previous four years. BMW motorcycles were rated as being even less reliable than Harleys, with about one in three owners reporting problems in the previous four years. Only about one in ten Yamaha owners experienced issues during that same time, followed closely by owners of Kawasaki and Honda machines.

Among the bikes that needed repairs, survey participants reporting having the most trouble with accessories, such as lights, instruments, switches, and radios (21 percent), brakes (20 percent), the electrical system (16 percent), and the fuel system (15 percent). Fortunately, repairs were fairly inexpensive, with 75% of them costing less than \$200.

"Reliability is one of many factors consumers might consider when purchasing a motorcycle. However, other factors like sculpted lines and rumbling engines also strike the right note among motorcyclists," said Rik Paul, Auto Editor, Consumer Reports.

Here's the kicker, though: Despite having more problems, both the Harley and the BMW owners also were among the most satisfied with their bikes. When asked if they would buy their bike again if they had to do it over, 75 percent of the Harley owners said definitely yes, closely followed by 74 percent of BMW owners and 72 percent of Honda owners. By contrast, only 63 and 60 percent of Yamaha and Kawasaki owners, respectively, were as emphatic in this admittedly subjective category.

The report also noted the growing availability of antilock brakes (ABS) on motorcycles, saying it was a welcome trend. Bikes equipped with ABS are 37 percent less likely to be involved in a fatal crash, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. CR noted that ABS adds only a few hundred dollars to the price of the bike - an investment deemed to be worthwhile and potentially lifesaving. The full report is on ConsumerReports.org and in the May issue of Consumer Reports.

Consumer Reports is the world's largest independent product-testing organization, rating thousands of products and services annually. For more info, see: [www.ConsumerReports.org](http://www.ConsumerReports.org)

Read more: [http://www.motorcyclecruiser.com/newsandupdates/1303\\_crup\\_consumer\\_reports\\_motorcycle\\_survey\\_results/viewall.html#ixzz2P8sQwWep](http://www.motorcyclecruiser.com/newsandupdates/1303_crup_consumer_reports_motorcycle_survey_results/viewall.html#ixzz2P8sQwWep)

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# APRIL 2013

Go to the Events page of [ABATEpalmbeach.com](http://ABATEpalmbeach.com) and use the calendar towards the bottom to get more information on these events and you can download the event to your own calendar .

| Sunday                                                                                        | Monday                                                                                                              | Tuesday                                                         | Wednesday                                                                                          | Thursday                                                                                                                 | Friday                                                       | Saturday                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                               | 1<br>•Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet & T3JB                                                                             | 2<br>•Iron Cross Bike Night<br>•Lone Legion Open House          | 3<br>•States Lake Worth MC Open House<br>•Palm Beach Harley Boot Camp<br>•Island Jack's Bike Night | 4<br>•Mickey's JAM with Hat Trick<br>•Black Pistons Open House<br>•Renegades Bike Night                                  | 5<br>•AOA WPB Open House<br>•Soldiers of Jesus MC Open House | 6<br>•Fly-In Wheels Open House<br>•USMVMC Martin Co Party<br>•Black Pistons MC Annual<br>•Wings of Gold Palm Beach Open House |
| 7<br>•States MC Pompano Annual<br>•Rack N Roll Sundays                                        | 8<br>•Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet & T3JB                                                                             | 9<br>•Lugnut's Bike Night at Boonies<br>•Lone Legion Open House | 10<br>•States Lake Worth MC Open House<br>•Island Jack's Bike Night                                | 11<br>•Mickey's JAM with Hat Trick<br>•Black Pistons Open House                                                          | 12<br>•AOA WPB Open House                                    | 13<br>•Fly-In Wheels Open House<br>•Mystic 7 MC Party<br>•Wings of Gold Palm Beach Open House                                 |
| 14<br>•Harley Palm Beach Chili Cook Off<br>•ABATE of FL State Meeting<br>•Rack N Roll Sundays | 15<br>•Johnny Q's Bike Night<br>•ABATE of FL Freedom Rally Run to the Capital<br>•Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet & T3JB | 16<br>•Lone Legion Open House                                   | 17<br>•States Lake Worth MC Open House<br>•Island Jack's Bike Night                                | 18<br>•Mickey's JAM with Hat Trick<br>•Black Pistons Open House<br>•Palm Beach Harley Bike Night                         | 19<br>•AOA WPB Open House                                    | 20<br>•Fly-In Wheels Open House<br>•Outcast MC Annual<br>•Wings of Gold Palm Beach Open House                                 |
| 21<br>•AOA WPB Party<br>•Rack N Roll Sundays                                                  | 22<br>•Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet & T3JB                                                                            | 23<br>•Lone Legion Open House                                   | 24<br>•States Lake Worth MC Open House<br>•Island Jack's Bike Night                                | 25<br>•Mickey's JAM with Hat Trick<br>•Black Pistons Open House<br>•Cycle Gear Bike Night<br>•Turboz's Bike Night Ralphs | 26<br>•AOA WPB Open House<br>•Leesburg Bikefest              | 27<br>•Fly-In Wheels Open House<br>•Leesburg Bikefest<br>•Wings of Gold Palm Beach Open House                                 |
| 28<br>•Leesburg Bikefest<br>•Rack N Roll Sundays                                              | 29<br>•Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet & T3JB                                                                            | 30<br>•Lone Legion Open House                                   |                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                          |                                                              |                                                                                                                               |

Help is needed to get out the word that May is Motorcycle Month to local governments. The Florida Governor usually has a proclamation and we need all local governments to do the same. If you can help contact Slo Motion at any of his email or phone — see Board information in front of newsletter. All help is needed.

# MAY 2013

Go to the Events page of ABATEpalmbeach.com and use the calendar towards the bottom to get more information on these events and you can download the event to your own calendar .

## ~~~~~ MAY IS MOTORCYCLE MONTH ~~~~~

| Sunday                                                                                                                  | Monday                                                                                                                       | Tuesday                                                                                                                | Wednesday                                                                                                                 | Thursday                                                                                                                                                    | Friday                                                                                                             | Saturday                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                        | 1<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>States Lake Worth MC Open House</li> <li>Island Jack's Bike Night</li> </ul>  | 2<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mickey's JAM with Hat Trick</li> <li>Black Pistons Open House</li> <li>Renegades Bike Night</li> </ul>          | 3<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AOA WPB Open House</li> <li>Soldiers of Jesus MC Open House</li> </ul> | 4<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fly-In Wheels Open House</li> <li>Wings of Gold Palm Beach Open House</li> </ul>                                                  |
| 5<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Southern MC Annual</li> <li>Rack N Roll Sundays</li> </ul>                  | 6<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet &amp; T3JB</li> </ul>                                 | 7<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Iron Cross Bike Night</li> <li>Lone Legion Open House</li> </ul>           | 8<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>States Lake Worth MC Open House</li> <li>Island Jack's Bike Night</li> </ul>  | 9<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mickey's JAM with Hat Trick</li> <li>Black Pistons Open House</li> </ul>                                        | 10<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AOA WPB Open House</li> </ul>                                         | 11<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fly-In Wheels Open House</li> <li>Wings of Gold MC P.S.L. Chili Cook Off</li> <li>Wings of Gold Palm Beach Open House</li> </ul> |
| 12<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rack N Roll Sundays</li> </ul>                                             | 13<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet &amp; T3JB</li> </ul>                                | 14<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lugnut's Bike Night at Boonies</li> <li>Lone Legion Open House</li> </ul> | 15<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>States Lake Worth MC Open House</li> <li>Island Jack's Bike Night</li> </ul> | 16<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mickey's JAM with Hat Trick</li> <li>Black Pistons Open House</li> <li>Palm Beach Harley Bike Night</li> </ul> | 17<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AOA WPB Open House</li> </ul>                                         | 18<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fly-In Wheels Open House</li> <li>USMVMC PB Annual</li> <li>Wings of Gold Palm Beach Open House</li> </ul>                       |
| 19<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wings of Gold MC Miami Annual</li> <li>Rack N Roll Sundays</li> </ul>      | 20<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnny Q's Bike Night</li> <li>Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet &amp; T3JB</li> </ul> | 21<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lone Legion Open House</li> </ul>                                         | 22<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>States Lake Worth MC Open House</li> <li>Island Jack's Bike Night</li> </ul> | 23<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mickey's JAM with Hat Trick</li> <li>Black Pistons Open House</li> <li>Cycle Gear Bike Night</li> </ul>        | 24<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AOA WPB Open House</li> </ul>                                         | 25<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fly-In Wheels Open House</li> <li>Wings of Gold Palm Beach Open House</li> </ul>                                                 |
| 26<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ABATE Southeast Memorial Day Event</li> <li>Rack N Roll Sundays</li> </ul> | 27<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet &amp; T3JB</li> </ul>                                | 28<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lone Legion Open House</li> </ul>                                         | 29<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>States Lake Worth MC Open House</li> <li>Island Jack's Bike Night</li> </ul> | 30<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mickey's JAM with Hat Trick</li> <li>Black Pistons Open House</li> <li>Turboz's Bike Night Ralphs</li> </ul>   | 31<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AOA WPB Open House</li> </ul>                                         | 1<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fly-In Wheels Open House</li> <li>Wings of Gold Palm Beach Open House</li> </ul>                                                  |

## MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT DEATHS ARE PREVENTABLE

The biggest cause of motorcycle accident deaths is driver negligence. Seventy-five percent of all motorcycle accident deaths involve collisions with other passenger cars. Of these cases, two-thirds are caused by passenger car driver negligence.

Vehicle drivers often lack the know-how or consideration required to safely share the road with motorcyclists. Some drivers don't pay enough attention while driving to identify motorcyclists on the road before making lane changes and other maneuvers.

Most motorcycle accident deaths are the result of another vehicle's failure to yield the right of way to a motorcyclist. Such actions can cause car accidents that seriously injure or even kill other motorists and pedestrians. These victims and their families may experience numerous costs after a car accident, including expenses related to doctor's visits, hospitalization, medications, therapy and vehicle repairs. That's in addition to personal loss experienced as a result of fatalities.

It is paramount to recognize the turmoil experienced by the victims. This is 100 percent avoidable, and such erratic behavior should be inexcusable. SB130, sponsored by Kurt Schaefer, R-Columbia, and HB674, sponsored by Rep. Ron Hicks, R-St. Peters are proposals correcting the language and increases the penalties to Missouri's state law regarding failure to yield the right of way. We implore you to show your support. Please contact your state house representative and senator and request they vote yes to this proposal that corrects the language and increases the penalties to Missouri's state law regarding failure to yield the right of way.

*Katherine Fox, State Legislative Coordinator for Freedom Of Road Riders, Inc. • Lake of the Ozarks*

[http://www.stltoday.com/news/opinion/mailbag/letters-to-the-editor/motorcycle-accident-deaths-are-preventable/article\\_a6f45d92-bbdf-561a-a1fa-c5d9f102adf8.html](http://www.stltoday.com/news/opinion/mailbag/letters-to-the-editor/motorcycle-accident-deaths-are-preventable/article_a6f45d92-bbdf-561a-a1fa-c5d9f102adf8.html)

Meanwhile the press in Florida ....

### Police see increase in motorcycle crashes involving life-threatening injury

[Paula Bonilla](#) and [Emily Miller](#) on March 29th, 2013 | Last updated: March 29, 2013 at 1:36 pm

Half of the Traffic Homicide Investigation callouts in Gainesville have involved motorcycles this year, Sgt. Joe Raulerson with the Gainesville Police Traffic Safety Team said in an email.

"Keeping the roadway safe for all users is the responsibility of both motorists and motorcyclists – everyone can do their part," he said.

Poor speed and spatial judgement of other drivers play a large role in motorcycle crashes, according to GPD. According to the National Highway Safety Administration, 40 percent of two-vehicle crashes involving a motorcycle occur when another vehicle turns left while the motorcycle is going straight, passing or overtaking the vehicle. GPD recommends motorcyclists use reflective stickers on helmets or wear brightly colored helmets and clothing because riders who are visible are less likely to have their right of way violated.

The department sees a "huge lack of helmets" among motorcycle and scooter riders, said Ben Tobias, GPD spokesman.

Helmets "don't look cool, they may not be comfortable, they may mess up your hair, but I always say a helmet is much more comfortable than, you know, a serious brain injury," he said.

Gainesville Harley-Davidson General Manager Kevin Lytle said to legally ride a motorcycle in Florida, one must become educated on motorcycle safety.

"It's actually a state law now that you take a motorcycle safety class so that you get on your license a motorcycle also endorsement," he said.

For more information about motorcycle safety, visit the [Ride Smart Florida website](#).

<http://www.wuft.org/news/2013/03/29/police-see-increase-in-motorcycle-crashes-involving-life-threatening-injury/>

## MOTORCYCLES & SCOOTERS

# Motorcycle reliability survey shows what goes wrong

Mar 26, 2013 9:00 AM

Many factors can influence choosing a motorcycle, but like cars, chances are reliability will be a consideration. After all, the bike is more than a swagger statement. It is some combination of transportation and recreation, and therefore needs to be dependable. This information was previously based largely on anecdotes, but a new Consumer Reports study reveals what can go wrong and how frequently.

The [motorcycle reliability survey](#) shows that among the bikes needing repairs, accessories (21 percent), brakes (20 percent), electrical system (16 percent), and fuel system (15 percent). These categories led all other problems by a substantial margin. Our experts suggest some fuel system problems may be due to improper winter storage preparation; brake problems can also be attributed to maintenance negligence.

Twenty-five percent of all repairs cost at least \$200 out-of-pocket, according to the survey. Looked at another way, it seems that most problems are relatively low-cost to fix. Key to this is that we found that potentially expensive engine, transmission, and suspension problems were few.

The chart below details the frequency of problems cited by consumers who bought a motorcycle new from 2009 to 2012 and reported needing a repair. None of these motorcycles were covered by an extended warranty or service contract purchased at an additional cost at the time of service.

| Which of the following parts on this motorcycle have been repaired? | Percent |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Accessories (e.g., lights, meters, switches, radio)                 | 21      |
| Brakes                                                              | 20      |
| Electrical system (e.g., starting, charging, ignition)              | 16      |
| Fuel system (including fuel tank)                                   | 15      |
| Clutch                                                              | 7       |
| Body panels/fairings/luggage                                        | 7       |
| Drive system (e.g., belt, chain, shaft)                             | 5       |
| Wheels (not including tires)                                        | 4       |
| Exhaust system                                                      | 4       |
| Cylinder head/valvetrain                                            | 3       |
| Exhaust system                                                      | 4       |
| Crankcase/crankshaft/piston                                         | 3       |
| Transmission                                                        | 3       |
| Front suspension                                                    | 3       |
| Cooling system                                                      | 3       |
| Rear suspension                                                     | 2       |
| Steering/handlebars                                                 | 2       |
| Frame/chassis                                                       | 2       |

Factoring in accessories (such as lights, radio, and other add-ons) and body panels (such as aerodynamic fairings and luggage) may help to explain why fully dressed touring bikes were less reliable than a more basic cruiser—there is simply more to go wrong or to get damaged.

See our full [report on motorcycle reliability](#) to see how reliability breaks down by bike type and brand, in addition to owner satisfaction by brand.

The findings for this survey are based on 4,424 reader responses regarding about 4,700 motorcycles bought new from 2009 to 2012. The data was collected through the 2012 Annual Product Reliability Survey conducted by the Consumer Reports National Research Center.

See our [motorcycle buying guide](#).

—Jeff Bartlett

# PALM BEACH

## Senators

Dist. 25

Joseph Abruzzo

Dist. 27

Jeff Clemens

Dist. 32

Joe Negron

Dist. 34

Maria Sachs

## Representatives

District 81

Kevin Rader

District 82

MaryLynn Magar

District 85

Pat Rooney, Jr.

District 86

Mark Pafford

District 87

Dave Kerner

District 88

Bobby Powell

District 89

Bill Hager

District 90

Lori Berman

District 91

Irving Slosberg

# LEGISLATIVE REPORT

## DAN "SLOW-MOTION" HENDERSON

I my research for newsletter I find some interesting things. Alabama only state that doesn't require motorcycle license; pending bill would change that. Presently there are 19 states only with helmet laws but that may change. Some states are considering removing mandatory laws and others have challenges to instate them but appears they are not likely to pass.

I set some trackers on Florida Bills and I found one on the ethanol in our gas. SB 320: Florida Renewable Fuel Standard Act by Evers. Florida Renewable Fuel Standard Act; Repealing the Florida Renewable Fuel Standard Act, to remove the requirement that all gasoline offered for sale in this state include a percentage of ethanol, subject to specified exemptions, waivers, suspensions, extensions, enforcement, and reporting, etc. The House version is identical HB 4001: Florida Renewable Fuel Standard Act by Gaetz ; Perry ; (CO-INTRODUCERS) Ahern ; Artiles ; Brodeur ; Combee ; Edwards ; Stone ; Wood ; Workman

FEDERAL Congressman Ted Deutch & Senator Bernie Sanders Introduce the Democracy is for People Amendment

Last week, Congressman Ted Deutch and U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders introduced the Democracy is for People Amendment. This proposed amendment would overturn the Supreme Court's Citizens United decision by making clear that the right to vote and the ability to influence our elections belongs to the people alone and not any corporate entity.

The Democracy is for People Amendment also grants Congress and the States the right to pass laws limiting the influence of big money in our elections and ensuring elected officials remain accountable to the people.

The rest of this report is from emails from Darrin "Scribe" Brooks, State Legislative Trustee, ABATE of Florida, Inc.

Hey Everyone, **Our Bills have been filed and are out.**

### **HB 1335 - Traffic Offenses General Bill by Beshears**

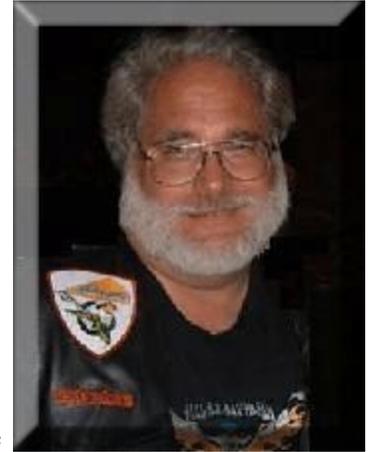
Traffic Offenses: Provides criminal penalties for a person who commits a moving violation that causes serious bodily injury to, or causes or contributes to the death of, a pedestrian or a person operating or riding in a motor vehicle or operating or riding on a motorcycle or bicycle.

### **SB 1648 - Traffic Offenses General Bill by Evers**

Traffic Offenses: Providing criminal penalties for a person who commits a moving violation that causes serious bodily injury to, or causes or contributes to the death of, a pedestrian or a person operating or riding in a motor vehicle or operating or riding on a motorcycle or bicycle; **requiring that the person pay a specified fine, serve a minimum period of incarceration, and attend a driver improvement course; requiring that the court revoke the person's driver license for a minimum specified period, etc.**

### **SMILE? YOU'RE FINE ISN'T GOING DOWN FOR RUNNING A RED LIGHT**

The Senate Transportation Committee stopped a proposal Thursday to reduce the fine for getting caught on camera running a red light. In advancing a measure (SB 1342) to clarify rules involving the use of traffic cameras to monitor and fine motorists for red light running, the committee backed an amendment from Sen. Jeff Clemens, D-Lake Worth, to remove a proposed reduction in the fine from \$158 to \$100. The amendment also overruled a proposal



by the bill's sponsor, Sen. Joseph Abruzzo, D-Royal Palm Beach, that would have given violators 90 days to pay or contest the violation, up from the current 30 days. The measure that still has appearances ahead before the Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Subcommittee, and the Appropriations Committee is intended to prevent using the cameras to cite drivers for improperly turning right on red lights. Also, it would set minimum amounts of time for yellow traffic lights to display and could give drivers more legal tools to fight citations.

### **BILL WOULD GIVE BEER FREEDOM**

You can go into a brew pub and get a 32 ounce beer to go. And you can go in and fill up a gallon bucket and take it home. But the most common size to-go beer container around the rest of the country, the 64-ounce growler, can't be filled up by brewpubs under Florida law. That would change under a bill (SB 1344) approved Thursday by the Senate Regulated Industries Committee. "Many people bring in their 64-ounce growlers, proud to show their local brewery, and they get to our brewery and we tell them 'We can't fill that for you. I can sell you two 32-ounce growlers to equal the same,'" Justin Clark of Cigar City Brewery in Tampa told the panel. "It's just silly. "We've got to get rid of this archaic law." Large beer distributors oppose the idea.

### **POLL FINDS FAVOR FOR TOUGHENING GUN CONTROLS**

Just over half of Florida voters back stricter controls on guns, according to a poll released Thursday. The Quinnipiac University poll found that registered Florida voters back stricter statewide gun-control laws by a 51--44 percent. The poll also found that 56 percent of voters support a nationwide ban on the sale of assault weapons with 41 percent opposed. Voters also favor a ban on the sale of high capacity magazines 53 percent to 43 percent. The poll was taken last week and surveyed 1000 voters. It has a margin of error of plus minus 3.1 percentage points.

### **CLINTON AHEAD OF JEB BUSH OR RUBIO IN FLA PRES HYPOTHETICAL**

Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton would defeat either of two well-known and popular Republican Florida candidates in the 2016 presidential election, according to a poll released Thursday by Quinnipiac University. In the poll of Florida voters on a hypothetical 2016 presidential race, Clinton leads former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush 51-40 percent, and leads GOP U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio 52-41 percent. Clinton gets a 62 percent favorable rating, compared to 33 percent unfavorable in the poll of 1,000 registered Florida voters taken last week. Bush's favorable rating was 50 percent in the poll and Rubio's 41 percent. The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.1 percentage points. "We probably won't know for some time whether former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton runs for president in 2016, but if she decides to make the race, she begins with a sizable lead in a state that Republicans cannot win the White House without," said Peter A. Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

### **CELL PHONE SEARCH BILL BUZZES ALONG**

Despite opposition from sheriffs and prosecutors, a House subcommittee Wednesday approved a bill that would require law enforcement to get warrants before they could search cell phones and other types of electronic devices. The House Civil Justice Subcommittee voted 12-1 to approve the measure (HB 797), sponsored by Rep. Carlos Trujillo, R-Miami. A bill supporter, Rep. Jose Javier Rodriguez, D-Miami, said many people probably have more personal and sensitive information on their cell phones than they do at home. But Pinellas County Sheriff Bob Gualtieri blasted the proposal, saying it could make it harder to catch criminals involved in child pornography and drug dealing. "What this bill does is protect criminals," Gualtieri said. The Florida Supreme Court is considering a case that stems from a police officer's search of a cell phone.

### **SENATE PANEL GIVES NOD TO OUTDOOR SMOKING BAN**

A Senate committee on Thursday approved a bill that could allow local governments to restrict outdoor smoking at publicly-owned places like beaches, playgrounds and parks. The legislation, if it gets final approval, would also allow local governments to ban smoking at the entrances to public sector workplaces. The measure (SB 258), sponsored by Sen. Rob Bradley, R-Fleming Island, was approved 6-3 by the Senate Health Policy Committee on Thursday. It has

one more committee stop on the Senate side before the floor, heading to Community Affairs.

### NELSON SAYS HE HAS NO PLANS TO RUN FOR GOV

U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson said Wednesday he isn't planning to run for governor. Nelson has been one of the few Democrats who has been consistently electable - and the only one who has been repeatedly elected statewide, having been elected to the Senate in 2000 and re-elected twice, and so has been mentioned as a possible candidate to challenge Gov. Rick Scott. He has no such plans, Nelson said during a stop in Tallahassee. "I'm not planning to run for governor," Nelson said. "I have no intention of running for governor. I've got plenty to do serving as a senator of this state and that's why I'm here today in my role as senator." Nelson also declined to answer questions about whether he would support former Gov. Charlie Crist for governor.

### FUNERAL PROTEST MEASURE HEADED TO GOVERNOR

A bill inspired by a Kansas church's protests at military funerals that would require a no-protest buffer zone around funeral and burial services unanimously passed the Senate Wednesday, sending the bill to Gov. Rick Scott. The proposal (HB 15) had already passed the House earlier this month, also unanimously. Under the measure, no protests would be allowed within 500 feet of any funeral. Lawmakers decided to make the bill apply to any funeral rather than just military funerals to avoid constitutional problems.

### SENATE PANEL EASILY APPROVES SALES-TAX HOLIDAY

The sales-tax holiday on school supplies would come back for another year under legislation that was unanimously approved Monday by the Senate Education Committee. The measure (SB 916) would shield many school supplies, clothing and computers from sales tax beginning on Aug. 2 and running through the end of Aug. 4. Sponsored by Sen. Anitere Flores, R-Miami, the bill would exempt clothing that costs \$75 or less, school supplies that ring up a \$15 or below and computers that cost \$750 or less. It has two more stops left in the Senate.

### SCHOOL BUS CAMERA BILL PASSES COMMITTEE

Drivers might need to be more careful around school buses under a measure approved Monday by the Senate Education Committee. On a 6-2 vote, the panel passed a measure (SB 950) that would equip school buses with cameras in hopes of catching motorists who drive past stopped school buses instead of waiting. Sen. Oscar Braynon, D-Miami Gardens, says his measure is meant to protect children, but some lawmakers are concerned about the bill's similarity to a contentious law allowing red-light cameras.

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OR  
TRIP TO A MARVEL MOVIE PREMIER (DATE TBD), INCLUDING 2 NIGHT LODGING AND AIR FARE  
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## HOUSE POISED TO BAN INTERNET CAFÉS

The rush to prohibit the electronic games that Internet cafes and adult arcades rely upon for revenue continued Thursday with a rushed reaction to a gambling scandal now a day away from House passage.

A little more than a week after the state's lieutenant governor resigned due to ties with a group at the center of a multi-state racketeering and money laundering investigation, the Florida House on Thursday advanced the measure (HB 155) to a final vote, expected on Friday morning.

The Senate may vote on a companion bill (SB 1030) next week.

The House approved a similar proposal last year, but the measure never reached the Senate floor.

Gov. Rick Scott said earlier this week he wanted to review the legislation before deciding if he would it into law, and said so again when speaking to the Miami Herald editorial board on Thursday.

Opponents of the proposal argued Thursday there could be unintended consequences in rapidly moving the ban forward.

House members rejected a proposal by Rep. Jim Waldman, D-Coconut Creek, for the bill to go before a tax and finance committee to consider any potential fiscal impacts of closing the businesses - possibly putting 1,300 people out of work.

The bill was backed by the House Gaming Committee, with Waldman the lone opponent, in its only committee review on March 15.

Waldman added that businesses such as Chuck E. Cheese and Dave & Buster's could get entangled in the legislation if the amusements they use are redefined by a local government or court as "games of chance." "A lot of people are going to be caught in this and I really think we ought to slow this down a bit," Waldman said. Rep. Elaine Schwartz, D-Hollywood, said the bill appears "overly broad" and could reach Wall Street investors "because that too is a game."

"This could really apply to someone betting on the stock market, betting with others on (whether) stocks go up, down or short," Schwartz said.

Rep. Carlos Trujillo, R-Miami, the sponsor of the House bill, rejected both arguments, saying the bill clarifies the existing law for law enforcement, as the electronic games used by the strip center businesses have always really been illegal under Florida law.

Trujillo compared the cafes and adult arcades to marijuana grow houses.

"A person who gets an occupational license and decides to operate an illegal marijuana grow house just because they're complying with a Department of Agriculture administrative requirement doesn't give you the authority to run an illegal gaming house," Trujillo said.

Trujillo added that the law will not hinder companies such as Chuck E. Cheese and Dave & Buster's, which offer prizes for amusements defined as games of skill. The bill also redefines the loophole that the cafes and adult arcades have used in declaring their machines "games of skill" rather than games of chance, attempting to make sure that companies such as McDonald's can continue to use giveaway games.

While legislators have been critical of the arcades for several years, the bill has rapidly made its way through both sides of the Legislature in response to a statewide investigation into alleged illegal gaming by a charity, Allied Veterans of the World. The probe has already led to 57 arrests. The investigation also resulted in Jennifer Carroll, who had consulted for Allied while in the Legislature, to resign as lieutenant governor on March 12.

## GRANDPARENTS RIGHTS BILL GETS OK

The House Civil Justice Subcommittee on Monday unanimously approved a proposal aimed at giving grandparents a legal avenue to try to see their grandchildren when visitation is denied. The proposal (HB 19) would deal with situations when a parent has died, gone missing or is in a vegetative state. If the other parent denies access, grandparents could go to court to try to get approval to see their grandchildren. The bill includes a lengthy legal process that grandparents would have to go through. But sponsor Rep. Darryl Rouson, D-St. Petersburg, said it stems from a central Florida case in which a woman disappeared and her children have been barred from seeing their grandparents.

**MOTOR VEHICLE FEE ROLL BACK SAILS THROUGH SEN APPROPS**

The Senate Appropriations Committee unanimously approved a bill Thursday lowering motor vehicle fees in exchange for repealing an insurance tax credit, turning aside protests from the insurance industry that the measure would hurt a thriving business.

Under the legislation (SB 7132), the bill would reduce the annual cost to register a motor vehicle by \$12. In return, insurance companies would lose a premium tax credit of up to 15 percent of the salaries they pay to Florida-based employees.

Doing away with the tax credit will raise about \$220 million, according to the committee's estimates, which will cover most of the projected \$225 million cost of rolling back the fees.

The bill sparked an unusual dynamic in the committee, with industry groups questioning a proposal from the Republican-led Senate and one GOP senator asking the committee to go slowly while others seemed eager to plow ahead.

Lobbyists for insurers told the committee they had no problem with trying to reduce the fees Florida motorists pay to register their automobiles -- as long as the money to pay for the reduction came from somewhere else. The industry says 44,000 jobs were created by companies that get the tax credit even as the economy struggled through the Great Recession.

"This credit, which was created to attract insurance jobs in the state, has worked and is working," said Brewster Bevis with Associated Industries of Florida.

But committee members were skeptical, with Republicans in particular pushing for the industry to name a company or companies that located jobs in Florida because of the credit or would leave if the credit were repealed. They also said that the success of the industry might suggest the tax break isn't needed anymore.

"At what point has an incentive done what we intended it to do and we as a Legislature say, 'That was it?'" asked Sen. Andy Gardiner, R-Orlando.

Others were more cautious, including Sen. Garrett Richter, R-Naples.

"I do think we need to tread very carefully because if ... any industry has had a tax exemption that goes away, that's a tax increase," he said.

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Senators also suggested the door was still open for insurance companies to come up with another source for the money to pay for the fee cut -- something Appropriations Chairman Joe Negron, R-Stuart, said he had given the industry a week to do. After the meeting, Negron said the industry's arguments -- which he said were largely speculation -- hadn't moved him.

"If I juxtapose an insurance (industry) tax break with sending money back to our constituents, I'm going to vote for the constituents," Negron said.

Gov. Rick Scott's office said he was focused on his own priorities for the session, but didn't rule out the proposal.

"The Governor is always open to looking at ways we can lower the cost of living for Florida families," spokeswoman Jackie Schutz said in an email.

### **GUN BUYING RESTRICTION FOR MENTALLY ILL HEADED TO FLOOR**

A bill that would strengthen the ban on firearm sales to the mentally ill is headed to the House floor after a unanimous up vote on Thursday in the Judiciary Committee. The bill, which is supported by the NRA, attempts to close a loophole in the ban on sales of guns to the mentally ill, by preventing sales to people who have voluntarily committed themselves for treatment, but then left on their own. Those people who voluntarily seek mental health help don't currently face any restrictions on gun purchases once they leave treatment. "This is a good bill. It is essential to being able to follow the law to keep people with mental illnesses from being able to purchase firearms," said Marion Hammer, the lobbyist for the NRA. The measure, by Rep. Barbara Watson, D-Miami Gardens, is the only measure seeking to increase restrictions on gun purchases that is moving in the Legislature this year. It does not, however, have a Senate companion.

### **SENATE E&E TO HEAR SESSION START DATE BILL**

Lawmakers could be done with their work in 2014 before baseball players finish up spring training, under a measure set for its first Senate hearing on Monday. The proposal (SB 1356), by Sen. Anitere Flores, R-Miami, would move the starting date of the 2014 legislative session to Jan. 22, meaning the 60-day gathering would have to be done by March 23 -- though, with that being a Sunday, lawmakers might opt to wrap up their business two days earlier. The Senate Ethics and Elections Committee will hear the bill on Monday, but the legislation still has two more stops in the chamber and no House counterpart. The Florida Constitution allows the Legislature to move its start date on even-numbered years, as lawmakers did in 2012 because of the once-a-decade redistricting process.

Darrin "Scribe" Brooks, State Legislative Trustee, ABATE of Florida, Inc. [www.abateflorida.com](http://www.abateflorida.com)



Leaving the March  
Chapter meeting for  
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## National Coalition of Motorcyclists



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## NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES

Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish,

National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM)

### LEGISLATION WOULD PROHIBIT E15 GAS PENDING FURTHER INVESTIGATION

Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner (R-WI) has introduced H.R. 875, which would require the Environmental Protection Agency to stop the use of gasoline containing 15% ethanol (E15) until its harmful effects are investigated further.

H.R. 875, introduced on February 28, would repeal the EPA's waiver decision approving the use of E15 and the authority of the agency to grant further decisions until the EPA seeks an independent scientific analysis of the effects of the E15 blend.

"There have been several tests and warnings highlighting E15's harmful effects on engines and their components, but they have all been dismissed by the EPA. Therefore, we must force the EPA to stop the use of E15 fuel until the serious safety, durability, performance and environmental concerns have been addressed," announced Rep. Sensenbrenner.

Sensenbrenner has introduced several bills to address the risks associated with E15, and his latest legislation to halt the sale of the 15% alcohol blended fuel until further studies are completed, came less than a week after witnesses from automobile and motorcycle industry and consumer groups testified before the Science, Space and Technology Committee that more testing is needed.

"We have a responsibility to ensure that Americans using gas-powered machinery – whether it be cars and boats or chainsaws and lawnmowers – are not put at risk due to faulty fuel that has not been adequately vetted," Sensenbrenner said.

### BILL INTRODUCED IN CALIFORNIA TO REGULATE LANE SHARING

No sooner had the California Highway Patrol published guidelines on how to safely maneuver your motorcycle between lanes of slow-moving traffic, than SB 350 was introduced by State Senator Jim Beall (D-San Jose) to codify the rules into law.

California is the only state that allows "lane sharing" or "lane splitting," precisely because there are no laws against it; though officers have a variety of charges they can levy against a reckless rider such as unsafe lane change or too fast for conditions.

Beall's bill would restrict the practice by prohibiting motorcycles from splitting lanes unless specifically allowed; "...when a highway has been divided into three or more clearly marked lanes for traffic traveling in the same direction, a person operating a motorcycle shall not pass another vehicle in a portion of a lane occupied by that vehicle unless the following conditions are met:

- (1) The passing occurs during traffic congestion.
- (2) The passing occurs at a safe speed."

Following furious feedback from motorcyclists opposed to over-regulating an act that 87% report doing almost daily during crowded commutes, Sen. Beall soon pulled his proposal and turned it into a two-year bill for future reconsideration.

In the meantime, although ABATE of California did not initiate the measure, the group will work with Beall to amend the language, and vows "...our goal is to ultimately submit a bill that addresses the concerns of the motorcycle community; a bill that can be supported and endorsed by the ABATE membership. If the final bill doesn't meet ABATE's requirements, ABATE will vigorously oppose the bill and try to kill it."

## **DRIVERS CAUSE MOST CRASHES WITH MOTORCYCLES, RESEARCH SHOWS**

For motorcycle riders, people in "cages" bear a disproportionate share of the blame for the high number of motorcycle crashes, while car drivers feel careless motorcyclists careening in and out of traffic are putting their own lives at risk.

So who's mostly to blame when four-wheel and two-wheel vehicles collide? According to a recent Florida Department of Transportation study, bikers are right. Motorists driving cars and trucks are mostly at fault, often failing to yield the right of way to the smaller vehicles.

In analyzing 10 years of Florida motorcycle crashes, Chanyoung Lee, a senior researcher at the University of South Florida's Center for Urban Transportation Research, found that 60% of the time motorists in other vehicles are at fault when they collide with motorcycles.

But the study uncovered more: When looking at all motorcycle crashes, motorcycle operators bear a lot of responsibility as well. They have a significantly higher number of single-vehicle crashes than other drivers. Some 34% of motorcycle crashes involve one vehicle, according to the study, compared to only 19% of car crashes involving one vehicle. When looking at really severe and fatal motorcycle crashes, 50% involve just the motorcycle and no other vehicle, but when multiple vehicles are involved, greater blame falls on four-wheeled drivers. And most motorcycle crashes involve other vehicles.

But it's also a matter of awareness, according to Lee, who is part of FDOT's Motorcycle Safety Coalition. In driver surveys, FDOT has asked people how often they see motorcycles. Those with motorcycle endorsements on their driver's licenses report seeing motorcycles all the time, while those without endorsements who live in the same area report occasionally seeing motorcycles.

Due to minimal levels of protection to their riders, approximately 80% of motorcycle crashes result in injury or fatality, according to the Network of Employees for Traffic Safety, while only 20% of passenger car crashes injure or kill the vehicle occupants.

## **MMA HELPS DEFEAT SOUND WARRANT IN YARMOUTH, MA**

The Massachusetts Motorcycle Association (MMA) is pleased to report that a town bylaw proposal has been successfully defeated in Yarmouth. With short notice, the MMA in concert with the Yarmouth Chief-of-Police and Deputy Chief attended a recent Board-of-Selectmen meeting and were successful in convincing the board that such a Bylaw would be unsuccessful.

Armed with prior testimony used successfully around the state, including used to overturn a similar bylaw passed in Falmouth and subsequently struck down by the Commonwealth Attorney General, MMA Legislative Director Rick Gleason joined the Chief and Deputy Chief of the Yarmouth Police Department in their argument that Town Bylaws cannot exceed State Law, and that such a measure would essentially be meaningless.

The MMA has long held strong opposition to the use of the OEM EPA Stamp on stock exhausts as an enforcement tool, because it is a consumer protection mechanism and not meant to be used against the consumer. It is also hard to locate on many models of motorcycle, hidden under seats on sport bikes, under saddle bags of cruisers, or simply facing the wrong way for aesthetic reasons. Most critically, per the very regulation that entitles it, it expires in one year or 3,729 miles, whichever comes first!!

Instead, the MMA ([www.MassMotorcycle.org](http://www.MassMotorcycle.org)) continues to hold a firm belief that the existing laws on the books are sufficient if properly implemented and enforced, specifically that simple test procedures do exist for muffled exhaust, whether replaced with after-market or not, with a reasonable sound level.

## **LICENSE PLATE CAMERAS - A NEW WAY TO NAB SCOFFLAWS**

First came red light cameras attached to traffic lights to catch drivers trying to beat the light; then came speed cameras along the roadway to ticket lead-footed speeders; but now police are deploying cameras in their cruisers to scan our license-plates in order to get instant feedback on unpaid tickets and other warrants.

It also allows authorities to monitor where average citizens might be at any particular time. That bothers some privacy advocates and organizations like the ACLU that oppose public intrusions into individual privacy. The groups are becoming more alarmed about license plate tracking as a growing

number of police departments acquire the technology for electronic surveillance of traffic on public streets.

Little Rock, AR Police Chief Stuart Thomas said the law enforcement benefits outweigh any concerns about possible abuse of the information, which, as a public record, is legally available for anyone to see.

Lawmakers in several states, including Minnesota and Utah, have suggested setting a time limit for their departments regarding how long such data can be collected and stored, but many places like Little Rock have no set policy and have a growing archive of license plate photos, along with time stamps and the locations, showing where motorists were at certain times.

Privacy advocates worry about the potential uses for such outside law enforcement, from snooping by stalkers and private investigators to businesses that sell personal data. "Given how few rules are currently on the books to protect our privacy, it's plausible that private investigators and data-mining companies could acquire this location data," said ACLU staff attorney Catherine Crump, adding that the organization has requested more information from government agencies, but hasn't filed any lawsuits.

### **AUSTRALIA BANS BROTHERS BEHIND BARS**

Since last Nov 19, the Australian State of Queensland in Northeastern Australia has banned the distribution of the monthly newsletter "Brothers Behind Bars" in its prisons. Brothers Behind Bars is a digest of biker club and motorcycle news edited by retired Sons of Silence patch holder Iron Mike Davis, and is an outreach program supported by the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM). BBB is specifically aimed at motorcycle club members and is stubbornly non-partisan.

Mike Davis was notified that the words he publishes were illegal in Oz with a peremptory, unsigned form letter from the government of Queensland that read in full: "On 7th of November 2012 Queensland Corrective Services issued a directive from head office that all correspondence between prisoners who are members of an Outlaw Motorcycle Gang (OMCG) & OMCG members & associates was to cease immediately. As a result the author of this letter has been identified to be either a member or associate of an OMCG as such your mail has been returned to you."

Iron Mike recently told The Aging Rebel ([www.agingrebel.com](http://www.agingrebel.com)), "Something I've said for years: 'Australia today, Canada tomorrow, and the U.S.A. the day after.' I truly believe countries like Canada, Germany, U.S.A., and others are watching to see what works in Australia to outlaw motorcycle clubs – starting with the 1%er ones."

The Aging Rebel article went on to describe "Anti-Bikie Laws" down under: "Queensland has been trying to outlaw motorcycle clubs since 2009 when the state passed legislation formally called the Criminal Organisation Act of 2009. These anti-bikie laws give police the power to declare which organizations are criminal & which are not. Similar sets of laws have been passed in the Australian states of New South Wales & South Australia, and have been challenged in the courts by the Hells Angels, Finks & Rebels MCs. Australia's strategy has been difficult to implement in the United States because the U.S. Constitution specifically guarantees citizens' & visitors' rights to move freely, assemble peaceably, to keep & bear arms & to express themselves freely in numerous ways including the right to wear a patch on your back. Various Fed police forces in America including the FBI, the ATF & increasingly the Dept of Homeland Security have attempted to subvert these Constitutional guarantees using the Racketeer Influenced And Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) & in several recent cases trademark law."

### **CANADIAN RIDERS BALK AT HEFTY INSURANCE HIKES**

Premier Brad Wall says "maybe mistakes were made" and the Saskatchewan government will revisit motorcycle insurance rate hikes proposed recently by Saskatchewan Government Insurance. "Our MLAs are reporting a lot of feedback on the issue, not just from those who are riders or have motorcycles, but others in general who note that these increases seem to be very high," Wall told reporters.

When the legislature reconvenes for its spring session next week, the Saskatchewan Party caucus will discuss its next steps, Wall said. He said he's not convinced SGI has exhausted all of its options to help eliminate a \$9-million deficit between crash injury payouts and fees charged to motorcyclists. "Obviously, what's being proposed by SGI for the rate rebalancing means huge increases and immediate increases, if

approved, for riders," Wall said.

SGL's proposal to the Saskatchewan Rate Review Panel would mean a sudden 73% jump in insurance costs for the average motorcycle owner, compared to an overall vehicle insurance rate increase of 1.03%. The move prompted a backlash from bike enthusiasts and business owners, who fear a big blow to new and used bike sales which could devastate the motorcycle industry.

If approved, the rate increases would take effect in August, but Wall said the chance is "slim" the proposal will stay as is. He wants the government and SGL to look at other creative options, such as using better price incentives to reward motorcyclists who have taken training courses.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:** "I am not a product of my circumstances. I am a product of my decisions." Stephen R. Covey (1932-2012) author, one of Time magazine's 25 most influential Americans

**ABATE of FLORIDA, INC.**  
**LIGHTHOUSE CHAPTER**

1st Annual  
**BLESSING OF THE BIKES**  
11:00 AM  
**May 19th**  
Christian Family Church  
430 Center St., Jupiter 33458



\$5.00 per bike  
Followed by  
**BBQ and Band**  
Until 4:00 PM at  
Ralph's Bar and Grill  
113 Center St., Jupiter 33458

**CELEBRATE MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS MONTH**  
For more information contact: Richie Casale RID45@msn.com or 561-685-7428  
Donations to ABATE of Florida, INC. are not deductible for Federal Income Tax purposes.  
ABATE of Florida does not condone Drinking and Driving Safety/Membership Information Available

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# SAFETY TRUSTEE

Charlie "Niblick" Wenger wanted to share this article from Southeast Chapter



## From Your Safety Director



### Riding on Wet roads

Most riders get used to riding in the rain by accident. They takeoff on an all-day ride when the sun is shining and by afternoon they realize they're going to get their first taste of wet asphalt, like it or not.

Here's a list of critical rain hazards we all need to watch for and look.

**Painted Lines** (some of them are melted plastic) - Crosswalks can be unsafe for motorcyclists, particularly if you're turning right or left and crossing the lines at an angle. Slow down more than usual and make the turn straight up, rather than in a lean. Until the DOT addresses the issue and comes up with a tackier texture you're the one in control of your destiny.

**Surface Textures** - Many commercial and residential parking areas are paved with very slick concrete surfaces. Your wet entry into the local mall or condo complex can put you on the ground in a second. Again, ride slow and straight up and don't let the concrete bite you.

**Rubber** - If you thought you might save some money by buying long lasting tires, think again. Such tires are typically not as tacky and have less traction when the rain comes out.

**Steel** - Manhole covers are enemy number one and railroad tracks rank a close second. Making a turn over the surface of them sets you up for trouble. Avoid such, or keep the bike straight up and cross over it slowly

**Water - Puddles/Pot Holes** - It only takes once to know how this one feels. You cruise through a puddle and after it's too late you realize you just went into a pot hole that wants to suck you into the underworld more painfully than Satan himself beating you down with a stick. Avoid puddles if you can. Use caution and predict the possibility ahead of time. Recovery from this rude awakening is not always easy.

Grated bridge crossings and metal plates are a nasty encounter in the rain. Look at where you want to ride, take it slow and don't try any fancy dancing, particularly a lane change.

**Oil** - It's everywhere and very illusive. Those little red and blue rainbows on the ground mean danger. Ride slow and straight up. As per the DOL's motorcycle safety manual, if you're caught in the first rain following a few dry days remember the roads are covered with lots of oil and dirt that will be lifted from the surface in the first 30-60 minutes of a new rain

David "Gimpy" Gregory  
Safety Director  
Abate Southeast Chapter



# Continental's One-Channel ABS Increases Motorcycle Safety

by Terry A. Miller on March 29, 2013 at 8:19 pm

The motorcycle ABS can be easily applied to suit the widest range of motorcycle and motor scooter models.

FRANKFURT, Germany – Motorcyclists love the feeling of freedom and adventure. But the open road conceals many hazards and motorcyclists are particularly at risk. A locked-up front wheel almost always leads to a fall. According to the German automobile club ADAC Accident Research, around a fifth of all motorcycle accidents could have been prevented if the bike had been fitted with an anti-lock braking system (ABS).

Just like cars, it is also important for motorcycles to remain stable during a panic brake. To improve the active safety of motorcycles, international automotive supplier Continental is expanding its range of electronic braking systems by introducing an one-channel ABS for smaller motorcycle and scooters. Based on its proven ABS technology for passenger cars it was developed especially for cost-sensitive markets such as Asia, whereat the wheelers must be equipped only with a hydraulic brake on the front wheel.

Production launch of the one-channel ABS is planned for the beginning of 2014. With a box volume of significantly less than 300 cubic centimeters and weighing roughly 420 grams the motorcycle ABS is very light and can be easily applied to suit the widest range of motorcycle and motor scooter models. ABS control of the front wheel stops it from locking up even during a panic brake by the driver and prevents a fall. A wheel speed sensor constantly monitors the front wheel's turning speed and from this the algorithms in the control unit calculate whether braking could potentially cause the front wheel to lock up. If so, the system will reduce the brake pressure, thus preventing loss of directional stability and road holding.

The one-channel ABS is the newest addition to Continental's portfolio of motorcycle systems currently in series production: Motorcycle Integral Brake Systems and Motorcycle Anti-Lock Brake Systems (2-Channel ABS). "In line with our Motto, 'Safety for Everyone', we want to make the one-channel ABS available to all road users and offer the world's motorcyclists a significant safety gain", said Lothar Kienle, Head of Development Motorcycle in the Business Unit Electronic Braking Systems of Continental's Chassis & Safety Division. Just how great the requirement is, throughout Asia for example, is demonstrated by a study into global traffic safety carried out by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2009. It found that roughly 28 percent of traffic fatalities in India and China were suffered by drivers of two and three-wheeled vehicles. In countries such as Indonesia and Thailand, the figure rose to 61 and 70 percent respectively.

The 2010 DEKRA Traffic Safety Report in Germany showed that ABS could either prevent many accidents or reduce the severity of their impact. It even concluded that 25 to 35 percent of the serious accidents analyzed in the report could have been prevented, had the motorcycles been fitted with ABS. "The widespread use of ABS for motorcycles and scooters would contribute considerably to reducing the number of serious injuries and fatalities", said Kienle. Even in Europe, the ratio of motorcycles fitted with ABS is still low. This is something that the European Union (EU) intends to change: For all motorcycles over 125 cubic centimeters ABS will become mandatory Europe-wide. This regulation is effective for all new type-approved motorcycles from 2016 and for all new motorcycles from 2017.



**The motorcycle ABS can be easily applied to suit the widest range of motorcycle and motor scooter models.**

# ABATE Palm Beach Chapter Meeting Minutes

## March 24th, 2013

The Chapter President's gavel resounded, signifying that the meeting was called to order at 11:40am, with thirty one members and two guests present. The Chapter recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and then stood for a moment of reverent silence.

**President** Ed “Nighthawk” Lattari – Nighthawk thanks everyone from the Chapter who attended the ABATE campground in Daytona, and is looking forward to lots of participation at the ABATE campground, which is put on by the Lake County Chapter, at Leesburg in April. A band is needed for the Chapter's June rally. The Chapter's Board elections are in June and nominations will start as part of this month's new business.

**Vice President** Dan “Slo-Motion” Henderson – “Beware of Sugar Sand” was Slo-Motion's message, as he retold the story of his recent mishap, at the campground, in Daytona. The Tallahassee ride, and ride to the capital, is in April. May is “Motorcycle Month”, and Slo Motion asked for help with contacting legislators and talking to them in Tallahassee.

**Secretary** Charles “CB” Barcellona - Announced that nominations would begin during the new business portion of the meeting.

**Treasurer** Debbie “Foxybabe” Wenger – Foxybabe gave a summary financial status report to the Chapter. The Chapter is financially sound. Foxybabe also announced that the Chapter is now able to accept credit cards to transact payment for memberships, renewals, and for Chapter and ABATE merchandise.

**Membership Trustee** Debbie “Foxybabe” Wenger – Foxybabe cited 228 current members in the Chapter, and gave a brief report on renewals.

**Sgt-at-Arms** Pete “Petee” Carroll – Volunteers are needed for the Chapter's June rally. Local rides and events were announced. Petee informed the Chapter that the Board is investigating the purchase of a trailer to haul the Chapter's equipment, and for use as storage.

**Safety Trustee** Charlie “Niblick” Wenger – Niblick detailed several local bike accidents. A new Safety Booth tent is needed. Nighthawk added that the Chapter is looking into a better quality tent, and also looking into having the Chapter's name and logo can be applied to the tent. Niblick continued, saying that the recent bike night at Palm Beach Harley Davidson was a great success, and that help is needed for the Palm Beach Harley Davidson chili cook-off. CB and Slo-Motion will be taking charge of the Safety Booth during the Chili cook-off.

**Newsletter Trustee** Dan “Slo-Motion” Henderson – Slo-Motion asked that any submissions for the Chrome Chronicles be submitted promptly, as there was little preparation time before the publication date this month.

**Legislative Trustee** Dan “Slo-Motion” Henderson – Slo-Motion informed the Chapter regarding several pending bills working their way through the legislative process.

**State Delegate** Ken “Snooze” Gerecke – no additional report.

**Product Trustee** Pro-Tem Lisa “Pookie” Miller – Pookie informed the Chapter about new shirts. Small Chapter patches are once again available. Several types of Chapter products were presented, including pins, patches and earrings. CB is looking into a small “text only” Chapter patch for vest fronts. CB will also be working on a products ad for the Chrome Chronicles.

**Old Business** – There was brief discussion, and informational status update given for the venue and band for the Chapter's June rally.

**New Business** – Nominations for the Executive Board of Directors, and Board of Directors Trustees were held. CB, acting as Elections Supervisor, recorded all nominations. At the end of this month's nominations, all existing office holders were re-nominated for office. CB expressed his disappointment that no new nominees were presented to hold office. CB announced that nominations will continue in April and May, with elections being held in June.

**Good of the Order** – Local events were discussed. Nighthawk reinforced the need for early notification if any group wants their event mentioned in the Chapter email and text alerts. Bones, VFW Post 4143 made several announcements. Niblick added some additional announcements regarding local events. Jack, ALR Post 268 made several announcements, and Jackie from VFW Post 4143 announced the upcoming luau.

LB, VFW Post 4143, won the 50/50 and donated his share to the Chapter.

The President's gavel was struck, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:40PM.

This concludes the minutes of the March, 24th, 2013 meeting of ABATE Palm Beach Chapter.

## Official Notification Nominations for Executive Board of Directors and Board of Directors Trustees

March 24, 2013 Charles "CB" Barcellona, Elections Supervisor  
Current Nominations

### Executive Board of Directions

President: Ed "Nighthawk" Lattari  
Vice President: Dan "Slo-Motion" Henderson  
Secretary: Charles "CB" Barcellona  
Treasurer: Deb "Foxybabe" Wenger

### Board of Directors Trustees

Sergeant-at-Arms: Pete "Petee" Carroll  
Membership Trustee: Deb "Foxybabe" Wenger  
Public Relations / Communications Trustee: no nomination  
Products Trustee: Lisa "Pookie" Miller  
Newsletter Trustee: Dan "Slo-Motion" Henderson  
Chapter Delegate #1: Dan "Slo-Motion" Henderson  
Chapter Delegate #2: Ken "Snooze" Gerecke  
Safety Trustee: Charlie "Niblick" Wenger

Nominations will continue to be held during the regular Chapter meetings in April, 2013 and May, 2013. Election of the Chapter Executive Board of Directors, and Board of Directors Trustees will be held during regular Chapter meeting in June, 2013.

All members in good standing are eligible for nomination. Nominees need not be present at the time of nomination, however nominees must be present at a regular Chapter meeting to accept the nomination. Nominees that cannot be present during the regular Chapter meeting in June, 2013 must inform the current Executive Board of Directors prior to the election.

# WHY JOIN ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.?

ABATE of Florida Inc is a non-profit Motorcycle Rights Organization whose cause is to EDUCATE the government, motorcyclists and the general public on freedom, rights and road safety.

**REQUIREMENTS**—must be at least 18 years of age. It does not matter what you or even if you ride. You can be an independent or member of a club or association. All are welcome at meetings.

**Join for the cause.** Everything is voluntary, we understand work and family comes first. We hope you can help in any small way, vote and spread the word. \$20 for Year or \$150 Life which is split between chapter and state.

**BENEFITS** Your money is used to provide a lobbyist to the state and federal government to watch for our rights and freedom. You get a State *MasterLink* newsletter every 2 months. The chapter newsletter is available online [abatepalmbeach.com](http://abatepalmbeach.com) so is in color and with Internet links. We print black and white copies for the general public to be informed available at various establishments. Members get free classified and reduced ad rates.

**INSURANCE** As an active member in good standing you have a \$4,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment policy from American Income Life. You will get a card in the mail from state office to register your beneficiary for ADD insurance. Do NOT mail it, just be sure your family knows about the policy. If you send it in and they try to meet to sell you more, contact State Office to have it stopped. You can mail to the office as Registered letter to have it done when you family notifies. be sure to renew in time so are always covered! It does not have to be a motorcycle accident.

**PRIVACY** Your email, address and phone are never given out to anyone except State and Chapter executive members. You We have stopped listing the expiring members in newsletter, you do get letters letting you know. No full names will appear in newsletter nor website without your permission. Photos are included to help promote Brotherhood.

## CLASSIFIEDS

“Big Bad Fred” has a seat, fits soft tails and fat boys, for sale \$50 photo right 723-3712



Slo motion will probably be selling his appliances—frig, oven, washer, dryer, ceiling fans —when his foreclosure is final. Anyone who might be interested call Dan 561-702-9929

Anybody a card collector of motorcycle sets? Slo Motion as sets to sell. Complete set plus of Harley-Davidson series 2, InLine Classic Motorcycle Cards series 1, and Champs American Vintage Cycles Series 2. Bargain prices. I got extra sets when in Daytona at the Eustis International Vintage Bike show.



# ABATE OF FLORIDA INC. PALM BEACH CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



**Membership Dues: \$20 per person for 1 year or \$150 for Life Membership**

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

**ABATE — Palm Beach Chapter**

**P.O. Box 32215**

**West Palm Beach, FL 33420-2215**

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY Will Palm Beach be your HOME. Voting chapter? \_\_\_\_\_  
NEW \_\_\_\_: Year \_\_\_\_ or Life \_\_\_\_ Renew: \_\_\_\_ Transfer: \_\_\_\_ Address Change: \_\_\_\_

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

MC/Club/Org

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip (full): \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Registered Voter? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ State House: \_\_\_\_ State Senate: \_\_\_\_ US Dist: \_\_\_\_

How can you best help ABATE? Time, Labor, Money, Other \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

State newsletter, *MasterLink* Mailed every other month \_\_\_ or online \_\_\_ abateflorida.com  
Chapter newsletter *The Chrome Chronicles* is online at start of month in color with active Links. If you do not have Internet printed copies can be gotten at the meeting or various distribution points. If mailed we request \$18 to cover postage \$ \_\_\_\_\_

You may also order Patches at this time **MEMBERSHIPS FEE** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Large Chapter Patch 10" by 10.5" \$35 each # \_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Small Chapter Patch 5" by 5.5" \$10 each # \_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Grand Total membership, patches, postage fee Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP CARD / PATCHES CAN BE GOTTEN AT CHAPTER MEETING (on the third Sunday of Month) OR MAILED WITHIN 30 DAYS . LIFE CARD MAY TAKE LONGER AS PICKED UP AT STATE MEETINGS EVERY OTHER MONTH



Place  
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*Palm Beach Chapter*  
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*West Palm Beach, FL*  
*33420-2215*

## **Next Palm Beach Chapter Meeting** **VFW POST 4143**

**3RD SUNDAY APRIL 21, 2013 11:30 am**

**Directions:** 2404 Broadway (US1), Riviera Beach - Exit I-95 at Blue Heron Blvd, go east to Broadway (US1) turn south and is 1 block on east side. **Bike Parking is on south side of building.**

Come early, enjoy a good breakfast deal and socialize with other members.

### **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.



**Support Our Troops - They Protect You !!**

