

A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments
American Bikers Aiming Toward Education



ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.
PALM BEACH CHAPTER

THE **Chrome Chronicles**

ISSUE 103 2014-03

ABATEPALMBEACH.COM

MARCH 2014

ABATE
of Florida Inc



**NEXT
CHAPTER
MEETING
11:30 AM**

4TH
Sunday
March 23

**CHECK TWICE
FOR MOTORCYCLES**

**LET THOSE
WHO RIDE
DECIDE!**

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.
2014 BIKE WEEK CAMPGROUND
GATES OPEN AT NOON FRIDAY MARCH 7 - GATES CLOSE AT NOON SUNDAY MARCH 16

BIKES, BBQ & BIKINIS

BIKE SHOW

BBQ COOK OFF

BIKINI BIKE WASH

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

BEER - WINE - LIQUOR

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 7	Time : Event:
SATURDAY, MARCH 8	Time : Event:
SUNDAY, MARCH 9	Time : Event:
MONDAY, MARCH 10	Time : Event:
TUESDAY, MARCH 11	Time : Event:
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12	Time : Event:
THURSDAY, MARCH 13	Time : Event:
FRIDAY, MARCH 14	Time : Event:
SATURDAY, MARCH 15	Time : Event:
SUNDAY, MARCH 16	Time : Event:

TENT CAMPING

RV SITES BY RESERVATION

24 HOUR SECURITY

CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

HOT SHOWERS

FOOD & BEVERAGES

For More Information Contact: ABATE of Florida, Inc. - PO Box 2520 - DeLand, FL 32721-2520 - (386) 943-9610
For RV Reservations with Hook Ups Call or Email the State Office - (386) 943-9610 - flabate@bellsouth.net
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BIGGER FASTER LIVELIER

Cruise down the open scenic highways of Daytona Beach and meet up with thousands of riders in the birthplace of speed for Bike Week 2014. Come for 10 days of non-stop entertainment including:
• Live music
• Races, bike shows and displays
• Food, great scenic rides and plenty more
So, come play a little harder at the World's Largest Motorcycle Event*. Seize the day. Better yet...

SEIZE THE DAY
DAYTONA BEACH.COM

MARCH 7-16, 2014
Details and more at BikerBeach.com and 1-866-296-8970
[Facebook.com/BikerBeach](https://www.facebook.com/BikerBeach)

ABATE of Florida, Inc. PRESENTS

THE BOONDOCKS POKER RUN
FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2014

ARE YOU READY TO ESCAPE THE CROWD?

120 MILE RIDE THROUGH SOME OF FLORIDA'S NATURAL SCENIC BEAUTY

POKER HANDS-\$15/SINGLE RIDER
\$25/DOUBLE RIDERS
\$5 EACH ADDITIONAL POKER HAND

SIGN-UP AT THE ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. CAMP-GROUND
3150 E. NEW YORK AVE. DELAND, FLORIDA 32724
(Volusia County Fairgrounds)
CONTACTS: RHONDA (407) 412-8381 OR
MYCHELLE (407) 719-2108
flabatestatepr@gmail.com

Registration begins at 9:00am
Last out by at 11:00am
Directions available at sign-up
Ride ends at 6:00pm
Safety and Membership info available



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TREASURER@ABATEPALMBEACH.COM

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561-284-1719

MEMBERSHIP@ABATEPALMBEACH.COM

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954-650-1420

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**Newsletters
can be picked
up at:**

- Chapter Meetings
- Our Table at Events
- Palm Beach Harley
- Turn 3
- Island Jacks
- Ralph's
- American Legion 268
- VFW 4143
- Iron Cross
- South FL Choppers
- A1 Cycles
- Professional Auto Care
- Boog N Geez
- Gorilla Motors
- Ultimate Fabrications
- Broward Motorsports
- Various MC clubhouses

EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

You are encouraged to submit letters about ABATE related to events, articles, photographs, commentaries, etc. Please do not submit slanderous or accusing letters, profanity or nudity. Abate of Florida, inc, will not accept any advertising that discriminates against any type of motorcyclist

DISCLAIMER

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Palm Beach Chapter accepts no
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opinions contained in this publication

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

IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT

This newsletter is the monthly publication of
ABATE of Florida, Inc. Palm Beach Chapter
published monthly 12 times a year

**ABATE of Florida Inc
Palm Beach Chapter
P.O. Box 32215**

West Palm Beach, FL 33420-2215

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ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.



BIKE WEEK 2014

Campground

MARCH 7 - MARCH 16
Volusia County Fairgrounds

3150 E. New York Ave. (Hwy 44) - DeLand, FL, 32724-6410

Gates Open 12 Noon Friday March 7

Gates Close 12 Noon Sunday March 16

TENT CAMPING:

\$15.00 (+ tax) Per Person, Per Night
\$90.00 (+ tax) Per Person, All 10 Days
\$20.00 (+ tax) One Time RV, Camper
Trailer Lane Use Fee (12 ft. plus)
\$10.00 Day Pass

RV ANNEX - FULL HOOKUPS:

\$50.00 (+ tax) Per Night, Includes 2 People
\$15.00 (+ tax) Per Extra Person Each Night
Includes Water, Electric & Sewer.
Make Your Reservations to Secure Your Spot

ABSOLUTELY NO PETS! NO EXCEPTIONS!

20 Minutes to Daytona

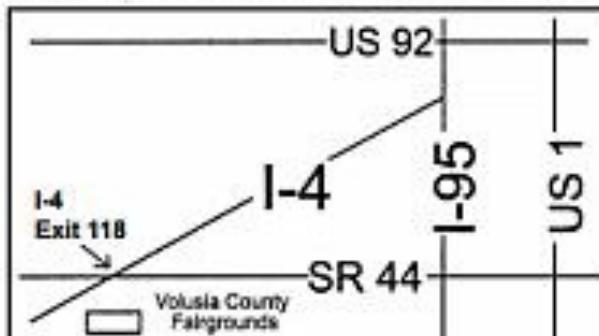
30 Minutes to Orlando

Food & Beverages

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24 Hour Security

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Volusia County Fairgrounds:

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No Attitudes

Stop by the Freedom
Fighters Bar & Grill

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Visit Us On The Web At www.abateflorida.com

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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.

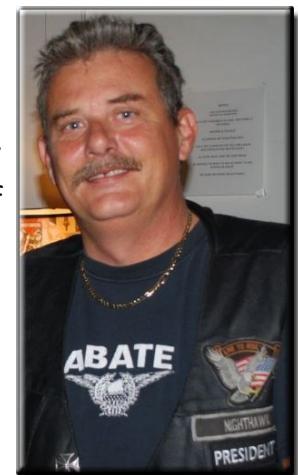
What else do you get with your membership? All members receive with their paid membership, the *Masterlink* Newsletter, Membership Card, Event Discounts and Updates, Voting Privileges, Free *Masterlink* Classified Advertisements, a Chapter Newsletter, and a free \$4,000 Accidental Death or Dismemberment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

Memberships are open to anyone 18 years of age or older, no matter what type of motorcycle you ride, if any at all! We welcome all riders—in clubs, associations, independents, and sport riders to join us.

President's Message "Nighthawk"

As I write this it's less than two weeks to Daytona Bike Week! I look forward to Bike Week every year and this is no exception. I'm planning on staying at the ABATE campground in Deland. Now if you read my message monthly, you already know of the importance of it, the amenities available there, but mostly the fun of it! I hope the chapter has a good turnout and I hope to see some of our fellow Palm Beach county bikers as well.

If you didn't already know, there's going to be some changes on the State board with Doc Fish's health issues. For this reason, please read Slo mo's and Snooze's report to be aware of the situation. I plan on talking to plenty of ABATE people while at the campground and helping out.



As usual we've been busy this past month and have attended a bunch of fun events. We started the month with the Slo Bowl party. A combination of Slo Mo Dan's 60th Birthday party and the big game. It was held at the Hawk's nest and it was another memorable time! The next weekend was the Vintage Motorcycle event held on Clematis in downtown WPB. The turnout was huge and had lots to see. There were loads of old bikes on display. It was nice seeing some of the 70's and early 80's Jap bikes that I owned and rode in my teens and early 20's. I believe they plan on making this an annual event, if so I think it's a good thing. The next day was the States MC Lake Worth Annual and another good time. The following week was the Benefit for Luciano at the Lone Legion Brotherhood MC. This event had a great turnout and I hope it helped this child suffering from Brain Cancer. ButterBean and his crew went all out to hold this event and should be proud of themselves. It's things like this that make all of the biker community look good. The next day was our chapter meeting and afterwards we rode down to the AOA South Annual. They have an awesome tiki bar on a nice lake. By the time this goes to print there will be the MOB MC Annual. I'm looking forward to that one!

In other news the ABATE PBC Chapter trailer is being built. Charlie and Hamish will be driving to Georgia to pick it up for us. It should be ready by Bike Week but I'm not sure whether or not we will have the graphics ready or someone who wants to haul it for bike week. This trailer will help the chapter in many ways.

Oh yeah, and as usual, make sure you're on the email and text alert systems to know what's happening. 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

**BIKERS HAVE MORE FUN
THAN PEOPLE DO**

UPCOMING Group Fun Rides/Event Schedule

March 1 Saturday Lone Legion Brotherhood MC Annual Group Fun Ride ABATE PBC Safety and Info Table Meet spot is Shell Gas Station Lantana Road just East of I-95 4:00 pm KU 4:15

MARCH 7 through 16 Daytona Bike Week MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW TO STAY AND PARTY AT THE ABATE of FLORIDA CAMPGROUNDS! If you have gear that needs to go up, contact me or Charlie.

March 9 Sunday SPECIAL EVENT details by text.

March 23 ABATE PBC Chapter Meeting

March 29 Saturday AOA WPB Stinky's Birthday Group Fun Ride Meet spot is Hess gas station Southeast corner of Okeechobee and Jog3:45pm KU 4pm

REMINDER: EVERY

Monday Night is MOB OF BROTHERS MC OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday Night is LONE LEGION MC OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday Night is STATES MC OPEN HOUSE

Thursday Night is BLACK PISTONS MC OPEN HOUSE

Friday Night is AOA MC OPEN HOUSE

Saturday Night is FLY-IN WHEELS MC OPEN HOUSE

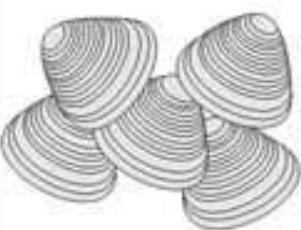
PLEASE ATTEND THE OPEN HOUSES FOR A GOOD TIME AND SHOW OF SUPPORT WHEN POSSIBLE.

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!

ABATE ROAD DOG COMPETITION (as of 2/20/14)

Snooze 10pt, Hamish 7pt, Fred 7pt, Tippy 6pt, Cary 4pt. Go T Dan 5pt, Ladyhawk 4 1/2pt, Treva 3 1/2pt, Sylvan 3 pt, Charlie (Mrs. Hamish) 2pt, Quiet Dan 2pt, James B 2pt, Kita 2pt, Zim 1pt, Debbie K 2 1/2pt, Davey Jones 2pt, Low Ryder Dave 1pt, Bwana 1pt, Trey 1pt, Phil M 1 pt, Joe N 1pt, Burger 1pt, Jerry W 1pt, Butch 1pt, Donna 1/2pt

You get 1 point for Riding your bike or working safety table, ½ point for Caging or Riding back seat. 2 points for riding in the rain. Designated Group Fun Rides only and you must wear an ABATE patch or shirt. If your name is not on this list and you're not a board member YOU need to make some rides and show you care about your chapter!



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Clams**

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Food**

vendors

STATES



**\$3 Single
\$5 Couple**

*Independents
Welcome!*

*M. C.
Florida*

50/50

48th ANNUAL BASH

**Sunday April 6, 2014
Noon until ???**

States MC Clubhouse

761 SW 13th Ct. Pompano Bch

954-786-2259 or 954-978-3682

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of Motorcycle Clubs and Organizations
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We need help in getting more
advertisers to support the
production of our newsletter.
Our rates are great so spread
the word so can continue to
expand distribution to the
general public and riders

Printed copies can be picked up
at this supporters business or
see the list on Page 2

ABATE of Florida, Inc.

Palm Beach Chapter Newsletter Advertising

Newsletter is now accessible on our ABATEpalmbeach.com in FULL color with active links including those of advertisers. It is also printed in black & white in an 8 by 11 format for distribution at various places.

Newsletter Ad Rates 6.5% sales Tax included

SIZE	1 MONTH	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	YEAR
BUSINESS CARD	\$ 12.72	\$ 26.71	\$ 49.61	\$ 89.29
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 25.44	\$ 50.88	\$ 92.86	\$ 167.14
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Material for ads should be in digital format such a JPG or PDF emailed to
Newsletter@abatepalmbeach.com
and send in by the 3rd weekend of the month to insure inclusion for next issue

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

OUR NEWSLETTERS are best viewed on our website ABATEpalmbeach.com as most timely (try to have up by first of month), in full color, and with active Internet links to stories, etc., of interest. We do need our advertisers and more to be able print and distribute more copies to the county for motorcyclists to be aware of the issues facing us. So please join in and let us know of good places to put them in. Issues can be mailed to members. Mailing costs are almost \$20 - less than a chapter gets for a year membership - so donations are appreciated. Non-members can buy a subscription for \$20 a year but the other two methods are faster as it takes more time to get mailings done. Thank you for all the support of ABATE of Florida, Inc. and the Palm Beach Chapter.

Vice President's Message - Slo Motion

PASSION, PURPOSE, and PARTICIPATION. These are the keys to a successful educational program according to one of the speakers at the Palm Beach County School District Technology Conference I recently attended. As I heard this, I thought of ABATE and how it applied to us. We all have the PASSION of riding, our motorcycles and the freedom they give us. We joined ABATE for the PURPOSE of keeping those freedoms, rights, and the safety aspects. We want safer roads and our Safety Awareness program is a great way to educate the general driving public to Watch for Motorcycles and Check Twice. For most of us our past experiences, either an accident or legal issue, has provided the PASSION to join for the PURPOSE. PARTICIPATION is the difficult part of the equation. Life is what happens to change plans for that participation. We all have jobs or families that take our time away from involvement with ABATE. The last few years have seen an improvement in participation as more come out for the rides, events, and such. It is great to see our members more often and give just a little more of their time. With more people stepping up to help with some Board jobs it gives more power to the group. I really like more input for the newsletter so it is not just my voice heard. Foxybabe gave great notes on the State meeting but expecting her to do more is not right. With the upcoming elections I hope more decide to get a little more involved, some jobs really do not take that much time and would help the present board from burning out.



I like doing the webpage and updated it and getting ready to move to the State server. The newsletter is going smooth — especially when I get good material. So glad when I do get the NCOM News Bytes and I think this month is one to really read as several good stories from what is going on in the motorcycle world.

For Those you have missed the last couple of Harley Palm Beach 3rd Thursday Bike Night, you have missed a couple of photo shoots of babes on bikes. So here are a couple of my favorites from this month, see the complete set on my BikerOnlineGuide.com site. I even got into some of the shots!



THE MOTORCYCLE SAFETY PARADOX

Paradox = something (such as a situation) that is made up of two opposite things and that seems impossible but is actually true or possible

Motorcycle safety is a paradox because of the inherent dangers; no matter what you do, the risk of injury is going to be elevated. This is not going to be an article on “why” we ride; instead I want to focus on how we can personally increase our own safety without having our freedoms encroached upon.

We all know that riding a motorcycle, even under the most ideal situations, carries a certain level of risk. We knowingly accept that risk each time we swing our leg over the saddle. But if the avoidance of risk controlled our lives we would never drive a car, work in certain occupations, eat fast foods, and smoke cigarettes; and who would even think about joining the military??

There are a few major things that we as riders can personally do to reduce the risk even more. These acts account for half of the motorcycle only crashes:

Never, ever drink and ride

Avoid speeding and/or reckless riding

There is no debate about this and ABATE of Florida, Inc. has never and will never condone drinking and riding nor speeding and reckless riding. We have all too often seen the aftermath of speed and impaired riding.

ABATE of Florida, Inc. also encourages motorcyclists to wear any of the protective equipment that THEY wish to use. We believe that the use of personal protective equipment is an individual choice. We encourage the use of rider training for new riders and advanced training for those who choose to expand their skill level.

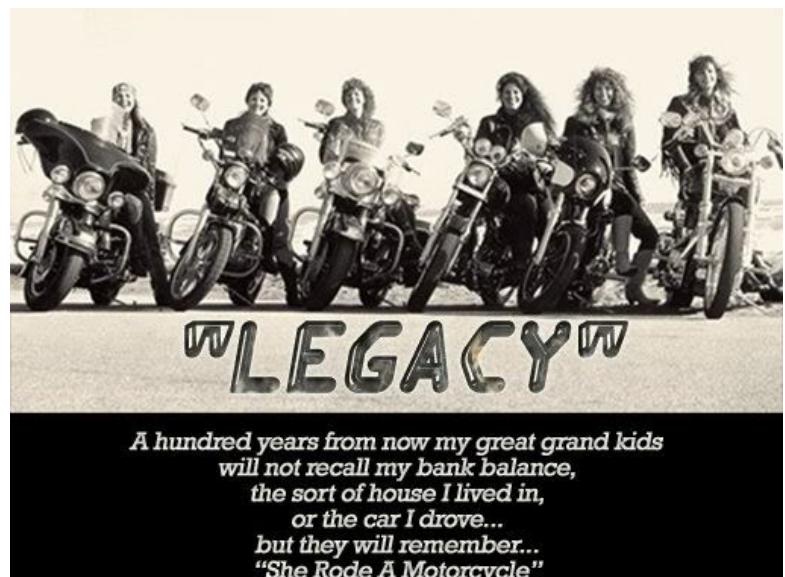
ABATE of Florida, Inc. is aware that roughly 75% of motorcycle involved crashes are with another motor vehicle. Studies have shown that the vast majority of these crashes were the fault of the motor vehicle, usually by pulling out or crossing in front of the motorcycle. How many times have we heard the car driver say, “I never saw the motorcycle.” In short, they don’t look for us. Always ride as if you are invisible, assume that the other vehicles do not see you and you will drive more defensively. Motorcyclists like to be noticed, so do whatever you can to be conspicuous while on the road. Be reflective at night, enhance your headlights, position yourself in your lane so others can see you, and ride according to the terrain and environment.

Realizing that most drivers are unaware of motorcyclists, ABATE of Florida, Inc. started our Motorcycle Safety Awareness Program (MSAP) where we go out into the schools and the general public to teach the drivers and all occupants of motor vehicles to be more aware of motorcyclists. The MSAP has reached over one million Florida residents and that number continues to grow. Best of all is that the MSAP uses only volunteer instructors and they all ride.

We are lucky that we live in Florida, a State that sees the value in preserving and maintaining the individuals’ rights and freedoms. However, there are many out there, both within the motorcycle community and on the outside who want to take away our freedoms in the name of safety and protecting us. But what about those people that want to force us to give up our liberty when they lose nothing? I don’t buy their arguments that they are concerned about the economic impact of injured motorcyclists without helmets on the general public. If that was the case, these same people would put their effort towards public safety and health issues that really affect the general public. Such as impaired driving, drug related crime, and distracted driving.

Benjamin Franklin said “Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.”

Darrin “Scribe” Brooks,
State Legislative Trustee,
ABATE of Florida, Inc.



SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH

23RD CHILI COOK OFF

11-5 * RAIN OR SHINE



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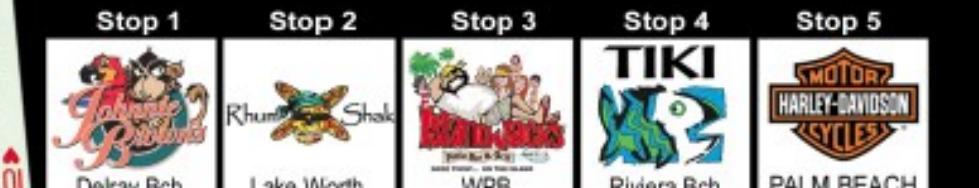


Saddletime Mike's 10th Annual

POKER RUN



Jake's Beach Bar & Grill



Rhum Shack



Tiki Bar



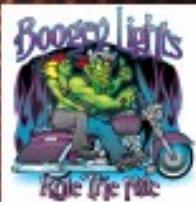
Tiki Bar



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STATE MEETINGS 2014 - Host Chapter - Location

April 13-14 Tallahassee Rally & Ride to the Capital
 June 14 Vintage - St. Augustine
 Oct. 11 Hillsborough - Brooksville Spooks and Scoots
 Dec. 13 Treasure Coast

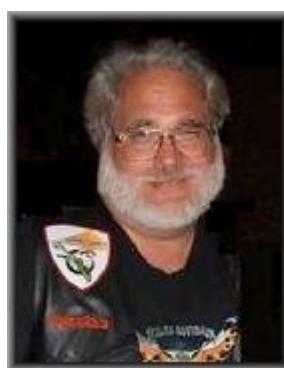


DELEGATE REPORT

Ken "Snooze" Gerecke

The state meeting for February was hosted by the Lake County chapter. As always they did a great job putting it all together. We found out there are going to be some empty seats to fill come June at the state level. Dan, Debbie, and I will have the privilege of representing the chapter. We will be discussing all about who will be running for these seats at the next couple of chapter meetings. So if you have someone in mind for a state level position let us know. We will be voting on behalf of our chapter.

The other very important thing is I hope everyone is planning on going to Bikeweek this year and staying at the ABATE of Florida campground. All are welcome clubs, independents, motorcycle orgs. everyone ! This year it is more important than ever. This event is very important to our cause so please plan on making it to Bikeweek and staying with us at the campground. Plus we usually have a great time !! Hope to see everyone there.



VIEW FROM THE BOARD TABLE

Dan "Slo Motion" Henderson

As I have been helping the State BOD with website support, I am sitting at the Board table as Web Trustee. Debbie Wenger has taken my Delegate seat to keep Snooze awake. Plus she did an excellent job adding to Kenny's Report with more details of the Meeting. So good to have another's input and views. Thank you Deb. The next State Meeting will be at the Tallahassee Rally. Kenny will trailer our bikes, The Wengers with use their toy hauler. Our chapter trailer should be ready to go for so if more want to take their bikes for the Ride to Capital we have room. It is a ride never to forget!

Debbie "Foxybabe" Wenger

President Danny Fish reports that he has never seen so many Watch for Motorcycle stickers than he did this last trip to the State meeting. Keep up the good work. It was announced that the Secretary Bob Alexander has stepped down due to having to care for his mother. Karen Carawan has stepped up to filling till elections. Also the Membership Trustee Valerie Loper has resigned and Grace Lord has stepped in till elections. Vice President Emory Griffis stressed that we need to sell raffle tickets for the 10,000 drawing at Bike Week. Treasurer Patty Nasrallah updated us on the 501c3, Sgt at Arms Mudder filled up in on Bike Week, State office Boots stressed that bike tickets or money should be turned in as soon as possible. Membership report was given by Patty Nasrallah along with Grace Lord, chapters need to complete and turn in the membership audits as soon as possible. Masterlink position is open Patti has visits with several people that might be interested in taking this position. PR/Communications Ronda Griffis was excused no report. Safety Director Charlie Wenger announced that there will one day during bike week that the state office will allow pickup of orders. That date will be given as we get closer to bike week. He also suggests putting your chapter membership application on the back of flyers that you might be passing out. Products trustee Steve Knee announced that he has the new business card holders and hats available; he also passed out the new updated products order form. Legislative trustee Darren Brooks asked everyone to contact your representatives and ask them to keep our visit to Tallahassee in April. Lobbyist Doc Reichenbach filled us in on several bills that are in the works the stiffer penalty, Safety money and drivers ed. NCOM Convention is in Dallas on May 8-11, Bike week was discussed, Sell tickets, donations are needed Kitchen stuff, beverages, bar donations, and volunteers are needed to set up the weekend before and after. Tallahassee in April was discussed they are still working out the details

with the KOA campground. Make sure you contact the representatives to tell them that you are visiting them in Tallahassee. New Business Lobbyist proposals need to receive by the state office 10 days prior to the next state meeting. Nominations today and the April state Meeting. Elections at the June state meeting we found out their are going to be some empty seats to fill come June at the state level. We will be discussing all about who will be running for these seats at the next couple of chapter meetings. We will be voting on behalf of our chapter. *Foxybabe*



18th ANNUAL FREEDOM RIGHTS RALLY

April 12 - 14, 2014

State Meeting Sunday April 13th at 2:00 pm

State Board Meeting Sunday April 13th at Noon

Monticello, Florida • American Legion Hall • 1065 S. Water St. • Monticello, FL 32344

Ride to the Capitol Monday April 14

from Monticello KOA Campground at 9:00am

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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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AMA and MRF

Update from AMA Feb. 5 **Update: Federal lawmaker requests information on checkpoints**

On Jan. 29, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration responded to U.S. Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner's (R-Wis.) Jan. 9 letter to U.S. Dept. of Transportation Sec. Anthony Foxx requesting information regarding a checkpoint program

As reported by news media, the NHTSA checkpoint program pays private contractors that use state and local law enforcement to conduct checkpoint programs and collect blood samples or mouth swabs from drivers.

One question addressed pertained to motorcycle-only checkpoints. The NHTSA responded that blood and saliva sample tests were not conducted at roadside MOCs.

Sensenbrenner is leading the fight against motorcycle-only checkpoints and is the sponsor of H.R. 1861, Stop Motorcycle Checkpoint Funding Act.

News from the AMA Feb. 1

Washington, D.C.: On Jan. 14th U.S. Sens. John Hoeven (R.-N.D.) and Amy Klobuchar (D.-Minn.) introduced S. 1925, the Driver Privacy Act. The bill would codify that information collected by an event data recorder – commonly referred to as a black box – would be the legal property of the person who owns or leases a passenger motor vehicle.

However, as currently written, the bill provides privacy protections only for vehicles that are specifically mentioned in the Code of Federal Regulations 49, section 563. This section does not include any reference to motorcycles. As a result, the privacy protections offered to operators of passenger motor vehicles would not extend to motorcyclists and all information collected from motorcyclists would remain unprotected.

The American Motorcyclist Association supports clarifying who owns the data collected in black boxes. Currently only 14 states have laws relating to ownership of data in an event data recorder. While event data recorders are not currently required for motorcycles, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration requires all passenger cars, multipurpose passenger vehicles, trucks, and buses to be equipped with a black box. The AMA believes it is only a matter of time before this mandate extends to motorcycles.

The AMA fully supports extending the provisions in S. 1925 to motorcyclists, in much the same manner that the U.S. House of Representatives' bipartisan H.R. 2414, the Black Box Privacy Protection Act (which the AMA supports), does.

MRF E-MAIL NEWS Motorcycle Riders Foundation

236 Massachusetts Ave. NE | Suite 204 | Washington, DC 20002-4980

202-546-0983 (voice) | 202-546-0986 (fax) | <http://www.mrf.org>

January 31, 2014-Washington Weekly Wrap-up

Contact:Jeff Hennie, Vice President of Government Relations and Public Affairs

Congress came back into session this week and actually did a little work. The House has passed a nearly \$1 trillion dollar farm bill. Supporters of the bill say it's a bipartisan effort and detractors claim the process was rushed. The last farm bill passed in 2008. The bill has an interesting detail; it removes the federal subsidy for rural biofuel blender pumps. Why only the rural pumps is a bit of a stab to the heart of ethanol supporters because that is where the pumps are most popular. It seems likely that if the feds are not picking up the bill then we will see less blender pumps and ultimately less or none at all of E-15 at gas stations. The Senate is expected to pass the house legislation without amendments and President Obama should sign it on arrival to his desk.

I had a meeting last month that I have been meaning to share with you. I met with our European counterpart, MAG UK or Motorcycle Action Group United Kingdom specifically with the new hire Lembit Opix. Lembit was a 13-year member of British parliament, European reality TV star, former Proctor and Gamble PR executive, and all around bona fide international man of mystery. His new role at MAG UK is the Communications and PR director. He has a lot of respect for the MRF and what we have done over the years working with congress, helmet laws and everything else. Lembit and I have been corresponding regularly and he has a lot of resources at his disposal. I look forward to a fruitful relationship with MAG UK. I'm trying to get him to come to MOTM! You all would love him.

Democrats suffered two blows to the U.S. house in the past few weeks. George Miller and Henry Waxman both from California would have been in line to receive committee chairmanships should the democrats win back the house in 2014, each announced their upcoming retirement. Some say the departure of two senior democrats is a strong indicator that house democrats think that a retaking of the majority in the U.S. house is not likely for 2014 or anytime in the next few cycles. Both seats are expected to remain firmly in democrat control.

Emailed by Darrin "Scribe" Brooks, State Legislative Trustee, ABATE of Florida, Inc.

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WEEKLY EVENTS

Mon Jam Night at Turn 3 with Stet & T3JB

Mon Mob of Brothers MC Open House

Tues Lone Legion MC Brotherhood Open House

Wed Island Jack's Bike Night

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

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 Fly-In Wheels MC WPB open house

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

Sun Flossie's Famous Tiki Hut Biker Sunday

3rd Sun USMVMC Palm Bch Open House

TURN 3 SPORTS BAR
In Memory of Brent
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YOUR SPORTS FUNQUARTERS

Come out to the **BEST** Jam night in North Broward...
Monday Jam Night hosted by Stet Blancett Turn3 Jam Band
Sunday, Karaoke with "Michelle"
Tuesdays - 8-Ball pool tournament
Every Wed, Texas Hold Em with Dealer Dave & Karaoke with Michelle
Every Thursday, Dart Grab Bag

St Patty's Party March 17
FREE Corned Beef & Cabbage
FREE Party favors

MARCH BANDS:

- Sat 3/1 Chain Reaction**
- Fri & Sat 3/7&8 Jack Flash**
- Fri & Sat 3/14&15 Top Priority**
- Fri & Sat 3/21&22 Rare Form**
- Fri & Sat 3/28&29 South Paw Raw**

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BIKEFEST
 WORLD'S LARGEST 3 DAY MOTORCYCLE & MUSIC EVENT
APRIL 25,26,27 2014

MARCH

2nd HERMANDAD MC - ANNUAL

7th-16th DAYTONA BIKE WEEK

16th USMV MC CH.1 PARTY

23rd KELTICS MC - ANNUAL

APRIL

6th STATES MC - ANNUAL

12th MYSTIC SEVEN MC - PARTY

13th AOA PAULY 1%er MEMORIAL

19th OUTCAST MC - ANNUAL

20th CMA - EASTER SERVICE

25th-27th LEESBURG BIKEFEST

MAY

4th SOUTHERN MC - ANNUAL

18 WINGS OF GOLD MC MIAMI - ANNUAL

25 SE. ABATE - MEMORIAL DAY EVENT

JUNE

8th NEW ATTITUDES MC - PARTY

14th AOA JERRY, ROGER, AND KENNY 1%er MEMORIAL

22 WINGS OF GOLD MC LAUD. ANNUAL

29th USMV MC S. BROWARD - ANNUAL

JULY

12th ALTERNATIVE MC - PARTY

19th WHEELS OF MAN MC CHILI COOK-OFF

AUGUST

2nd WINGS OF GOLD MC MIAMI PARTY

4-10 74th STURGIS MOTORCYCLE RALLY

8-10 SOUTH FLORIDA TATTOO CONVENTION

10 AOA FT. LAUD. ANNIVERSARY PARTY

SEPTEMBER

7th SOUTHERN MC - TEDDY BEAR RUN

13th OUTCAST MC - PARTY

14th STATES MC - KEY WEST TUNE UP PARTY

19th-21st PETERSONS KEY WEST POKER RUN

28th KELTICS MC - PARTY

OCTOBER

4th MYSTIC SEVEN - ANNUAL

11th NEW ATTITUDES MC - ANNUAL

12th S.E. ABATE - ANNUAL

16th-19th DAYTONA BIKEFEST

25 WHEELS OF MAN MC HALLOWEEN PARTY

NOVEMBER

8th USMV MC CHAP 1 ANNUAL

9th CMA - MEMORIAL EVENT

15th HEATHENS MC - ANNUAL

DECEMBER

7th SFPC TOYS IN THE SUN RUN

13th PETERSONS TOY RUN BIKE DRAWING

13th HERMANDAD MC - ALFREDO MEMORIAL AND TOY RUN

14th WINGS OF GOLD MC MIAMI - TOY RUN

20th SFLCOC - CHRISTMAS PARTY

21 CALVARY CHAPEL - CHRISTMAS SERVICE

United Bikers Council of Palm Beach Co. Events

MARCH

01 Sat. Lone Legion Brotherhood MC Annual

07 through 16 Daytona Bike Week

30 Sun. AOA WPB Stinky's Birthday

APRIL

06 Sun. Black Pistons Annual

19 Sat. Outcast MC Annual UBCPB Council Ride

20 Sun. Easter 420 Party AOA WPB

25 through 27 Leesburg Bikefest

MAY

17 Sat. U.S. Military Vets MC Annual

JUNE

28 Sat. ABATE PBC EVENT

JULY

06 Sun. AOA WPB Annual

27 Sun. Soldiers for Jesus MC Annual

AUGUST

10 Sun. AOA South Event UBCPB Council Ride

SEPTEMBER

19-21 Petersons Key West Poker Run

OCTOBER

16 through 19 Daytona Biketoberfest

26 Sun. Alternative MC Annual

DECEMBER \

09 2014 UBCPB Christmas Party

13 Outcast Event

20 Annual Sportsbike End of Year Black and White Party

ABATE PALM BEACH CHAPTER MEETINGS

4th SUNDAY March 23**3rd SATURDAY April 19**

3rd Sunday May 18

4th SUNDAY June 22

3rd Sunday July 20

3rd Sunday August 17

2ND SUNDAY Sept. 14**4TH SUNDAY Oct. 26**

3rd Sunday Nov. 16

3rd Sunday Dec. 21

CHANGES BOLD & CAPITALS

March 2014

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						
2 Hermandad MC Annual	3 Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet & T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House Brass Monkey Motorcycle Madness	4 Lone Legion MC Open House	5 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	6 Renegades Bike Night Black Pistons MC Open House Dinner States Pompano	7 BIKEWEEK AOA WPB Open House Soldiers for Jesus MC Open House Pizza States Pompano	8 BIKEWEEK Deland Bikefest Fly-In Wheels MC Open House
9 BIKEWEEK	10 BIKEWEEK Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet & T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House	11 BIKEWEEK Lone Legion MC Open House	12 BIKEWEEK Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	13 BIKEWEEK BikesBikinisBBQ Black Pistons MC Open House Dinner States Pompano	14 BIKEWEEK Boondock Run AOA WPB MC Open House Pizza States Pompano	15 BIKEWEEK Fly-In Wheels MC Open House
16 BIKEWEEK	17 Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet & T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House	18 Lone Legion MC Open House	19 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	20 Harley Palm Bch Bike Night Black Pistons MC Open House Dinner States Pompano	21 AOA WPB MC Open House Pizza States Pompano	22 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House
23 ABATE Palm Beach Chapter Meeting	24 Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet & T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House	25 Lone Legion MC Open House	26 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	27 Turboz/Ralphs Bike Night Black Pistons Open House	28 AOA WPB MC Open House Pizza States Pompano	29 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House
30	31 Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet & T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House	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.				

April 2014

Sun**Mon****Tue****Wed****Thu****Fri****Sat**

 <p><i>Open House Every Thursday</i> 1170 Highview - Lantana, FL 8:00 pm till Midnight <i>Join us for Food, Music, Beverages and Brotherhood</i> No Guns, No Drugs, No Attitudes, No Chumlies</p>	1 Lone Legion MC Open House	2 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	3 Renegades Bike Night Black Pistons MC Open House Dinner States Pompano	4 AOA WPB Open House Soldiers for Jesus MC Open House Pizza States Pompano	5 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House	
6 PB Harley Chili Cook Off States Pompano Annual	7 Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet & T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House Brass Monkey Motorcycle Madness	8 Lone Legion MC Open House	9 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	10 Black Pistons MC Open House Dinner States Pompano	11 AOA WPB MC Open House Pizza States Pompano	12 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House Mystic Seven MC Party Bikefest Okeechobee
13 ABATE Palm Beach Chapter Meeting AOA Pauly 1%er Memorial	14 Capital Rally Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet & T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House	15 Lone Legion MC Open House	16 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	17 Harley Palm Bch Bike Night Black Pistons MC Open House Dinner States Pompano	18 AOA WPB MC Open House Pizza States Pompano	19 ABATE Palm Beach Chapter Meeting Fly-In Wheels MC Open House Outcasts MC Annual
20 CMA Easter	21 Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet & T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House	22 Lone Legion MC Open House	23 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	24 Turboz/Ralphs Bike Night Black Pistons Open House	25 AOA WPB MC Open House Pizza States Pompano LEESBURG BIKEFEST	26 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House LEESBURG BIKEFEST
27 LEESBURG BIKEFEST	28 Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet & T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House	29 Lone Legion MC Open House	30 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House			

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

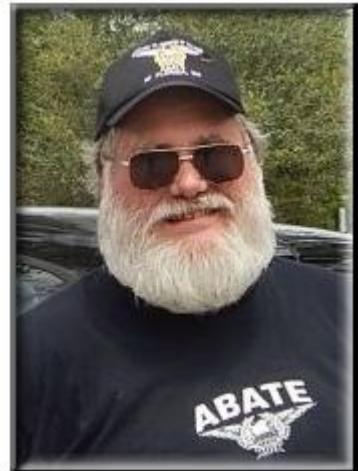
District 91

Irving Slosberg

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

DAN "SLOW-MOTION" HENDERSON

With March the legislators will be returning to Tallahassee for session. On the agenda are bills, HB9 and SB72, to alternate this session start from March to February every other year. The ABATE State Board urges us to contact our reps and vote AGAINST these as would require our Capital Rally to be moved. At present the session change is about 7 years due to Easter dates. Ever ridden in the panhandle in February? Our rally was in February a couple of years ago and the ride was FRIGID! For last month's State meeting President Doc Danny Fish and Products Steve Knees had troubles as I-10 was closed due to ICE! Due to slow traffic Doc saw a lot of our bumper stickers and was very proud. I think thye needs to visit Palm Beach county as I believe we have done a great job with that in a much more populated area.



Lobbyist Doc Reichenbach reported that it is looking good for us getting the safety money this year as there is much support for it in the House AND the Senate. Last year it was not Governor Scott that stopped it but the Senate President Gaetz that did. HB183/SB102 Drivers Leaving the Scene of a Crash uses the same language as the Stiffer Penalties bills we have supported in the past EXCEPT the increased penalties only go into effect if you leave the accident. So you could still only get a \$80 fine for killing someone and doing the right thing by staying. THIS IS WRONG! We still need a law making people more responsible for their action, not rewarding them for doing what is right. This bill should have been done to INCREASE the penalties for leaving an accident. After seeing on the news of two hit and run bicycle accidents up around Port Saint Lucie. I believe ANYONE leaving the scene of an accident should be charged with attempted homicide regardless of the degree of injury. A vehicle can be a deadly weapon—tht is way we really ned driver education for all.

I have posted Scribe's Bills to Watch lists on our website if you want to view them. Now for more of Darrin "Scribe" email reports.

Feb 20 Tally news capsule Darrin "Scribe" Brooks

'DO NOT TEXT' BILL ADVANCES IN SENATE

A proposal to include text messages that feature sales pitches in the state's "Do Not Call" list is one step closer to the Senate floor. The measure (SB 450) by **Sen. Jeff Clemens, D-Lake Worth**, received the unanimous backing of the Communications, Energy and Public Utilities Committee on Tuesday. "This is a simple bill that simply keeps us up with technology," Clemens said. Currently, sales calls are prohibited when made by telephone solicitors to numbers on the list. The bill would expand the definition to include text messages. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has estimated the change could cost about \$200,000 a year, most for the salaries of regulatory consultants and a staff clerk. Grips about violations of the state's "Do Not Call" list easily dominated the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' top complaints for 2013.

'WARNING SHOT' BILL SPEEDS THROUGH HOUSE

The House Judiciary Committee voted overwhelmingly Thursday to approve what has become known as the "warning shot" bill, readying it to go to the full House. The bill (HB 89),

sponsored by Rep. Neil Combee, R-Polk City, would grant immunity to people who threaten to use force, including displaying weapons or firing warning shots, in self-defense. The Judiciary Committee voted 15-2 to approve the bill, which also would allow people to have records expunged if they were never charged or if charges were dismissed in situations where they showed weapons or fired warning shots. The bill earlier was approved by the Criminal Justice Subcommittee and has not been assigned to any other committees.

HOUSE ADDS AMMO TO BAN ON INSURERS DISCRIMINATING AGAINST GUN OWNERS

Insurance companies could face tougher penalties if they impose higher rates or take other actions against auto or homeowner policyholders due to lawful gun ownership --- or ammunition possession --- under a measure that received its second House committee backing on Wednesday. While Florida law already prohibits such actions, the House Civil Justice Subcommittee in an 8-2 vote approved a bill (HB 255) by Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Fort Walton Beach, that would provide a court remedy to policyholders. Along with higher rates, the bill would target insurers that might refuse to issue or renew policies or cancel policies because of gun ownership. "The laws that we have on the books now only allow the government to step in and stop an insurance company from discriminating against someone for exercising a constitutional right," Gaetz said. "As of now they would be blocked at the courthouse steps." The committee also agreed to amend the bill, backed by the National Rifle Association and Unified Sportsmen of Florida, to include a ban on crafting insurance policies that discriminate against people for possession of ammunition. The measure must still get through the House Regulatory Affairs Committee. The Senate version (SB 424) has already been backed by the Banking and Insurance and the Criminal Justice committees and has only to clear the Appropriations Committee before reaching the Senate floor.

Feb. 17

GAETZ WOULD BACK REPEALING RED LIGHT CAMERAS

Senate President Don Gaetz, R-Niceville, and House Speaker Will Weatherford, R-Wesley Chapel, are no fans of red-light cameras --- that much is clear. Echoing comments by the speaker, Gaetz said in a televised interview last week that he would support repealing the state's red-light camera law. "I voted against red light cameras when they came up the first time," Gaetz said during an interview on The Florida Channel's "Florida Face to Face" show. "I'd vote for repeal today. I agree with the speaker." Weatherford said during an interview with The News Service of Florida that he would back a repeal, though he acknowledged that is not likely to happen. Appearing with Gaetz in the television interview, Weatherford said he hopes to add regulations on the use of the cameras by local governments. "I don't live under any illusion that we're going to repeal red-light cameras this year," Weatherford said. "But we ought to be able to bring some sensible regulations and some sensible policies on how and where they put these red-light cameras." Red-light cameras have long been controversial, but opponents are pointing to a new study by the Legislature's Office of Program Policy Analysis & Government Accountability, which they say shows the cameras haven't reduced accidents and are a way for local governments to bring in revenues. The Florida League of Cities has questioned the fairness of the study.

TAX OFFICES MIGHT PROCESS GUN LICENSE APPLICATIONS

Gun owners would be able to apply for concealed weapons licenses at their local tax collector's offices under a National Rifle Association-backed measure approved unanimously by the Senate Agriculture Committee on Monday. Florida has more than a million concealed weapons licenses and the number is growing. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has eight regional field offices where gun owners can apply for the permits in person, but demand is so high that the wait at some locales is six months for an appointment. "It's a convenience for the citizens of the state of Florida to be able to come into their own county in buildings that their taxes helped pay for. Whether it's paying their taxes or getting a driver's license, it's a courtesy to the taxpayers," said Indian River County Tax Collector Carole Jean Jordan. Under the proposal, tax collectors would be able to charge an extra \$22 on top of the \$70 fee for new applications and an additional \$12 for renewals, which cost \$60. The county officials already process photos, fingerprints and other things associated with the concealed carry applications. The costs don't include \$42 for background checks, which will still be handled by the agriculture department. Making it easier for gun owners to get concealed weapons licenses, which require some training, could make Floridians safer, said NRA lobbyist

Marion Hammer. "They become a little more conscious of the responsibility of gun ownership," Hammer, who estimates that there are 8 million gun owners in Florida, said. "I think it can't hurt." The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services offices in Fort Walton Beach, Jacksonville, Doral, Orlando, Punta Gorda, Tallahassee, Tampa and West Palm Beach are two-hour drives for some gun owners, many of whom prefer to hand over their paperwork in person because of past delays processing the applications by mail. Clerks at the regional offices can also ensure that applications contain all of the items necessary to be processed, another time-saver. Applications now take about 35 days to process once received by the department, according to spokesman Aaron Keller. Several years ago, the department had a backlog of up to six months to get the applications processed, which by law are required to be completed within 90 days. Start-up costs for the program would be about \$800,000, including 11 new workers, to get the operation up-and-running in 30 counties, according to Keller. The money would come from a trust fund made up of the concealed weapons license fees, which now has a balance of about \$26 million. The department would enter into agreements with the tax collectors, who would not be required to participate. "It's just kind of a natural thing for us to go into, after doing drivers licenses. We're a very secure facility. Our clerks are deputized," Jordan said.

Feb 13 Tally news capsule - Red light camera edition

WEATHERFORD BLASTS RED-LIGHT CAMERAS

House Speaker Will Weatherford, R-Wesley Chapel, made clear Wednesday he wants to overhaul the state's red-light camera law, pointing to a new report that he described as "scathing." Weatherford said during an interview with The News Service of Florida that he would support passing a bill to repeal the cameras, though he acknowledged that likely will not happen. The speaker's comments came two days after Rep. Frank Artiles, R-Miami, and Sen. Jeff Brandes, R-St. Petersburg, --- two major critics of red-light cameras --- held a news conference to release a report by the Legislature's Office of Program Policy Analysis & Government Accountability. Brandes said the study shows the cameras haven't reduced accidents and that local governments are using the program to fuel their budgets. The Florida League of Cities questioned the fairness of the study. The study outlines possible changes in the state's red-light camera law, such as calling for local governments to demonstrate a safety need at each intersection where cameras may be installed, requiring communities to follow standards on the lengths of yellow lights and saying revenue generated from the cameras should be restricted to public and traffic-safety uses.

BRANDES, ARTILES: STUDY RAISES QUESTIONS ABOUT RED-LIGHT CAMERAS

A measure to repeal the state's red-light traffic camera law will be pushed forward by lawmakers using a study from the Legislature's non-partisan policy office to support the effort.

The report from the Office of Program Policy Analysis & Government Accountability found there were fewer fatalities but more crashes at electronically monitored intersections, and that fines issued due to the technology cost motorists nearly \$119 million last year.

The Florida League of Cities quickly contested the fairness of the study.

Sen. Jeff Brandes, R-St. Petersburg, said Monday that the study backs his contention that the state's primary red-light camera law, the Mark Wandall Traffic Safety Act of 2010, hasn't reduced safety, and that municipal and county governments are using the program to fuel their budgets.

"I think we should go all in for full repeal," Brandes said during a press conference at the Capitol to highlight the study. "I think this data clearly shows that this program is not working as the Legislature intended, that we're not seeing a reduction in accidents, (and) that we're seeing a clear, dramatic increase in revenues that are being generated from this."

Rep. Frank Artiles, R-Miami, who has filed a measure (HB 4009) to repeal the 2010 law, said if legislators are unwilling to support repeal, state lawmakers should enact the series of recommendations included in the legislative study.

"I still firmly believe that this program should be repealed, but if we cannot repeal it I'm willing to modify it significantly," Artiles said.

The study recommends that local governments demonstrate a safety need at each intersection where cameras may be installed, that local communities should be required to follow standards on the length of yellow lights, and that revenue local governments generate from the cameras be restricted to public and traffic safety uses.

Artiles also proposes that the amount local governments can fine be reduced from \$158 to \$83. The Florida

League of Cities, in a release from its lobbyist Casey Cook, maintained that the cameras do improve safety and called the study "biased and inconsistent."

"The report's conclusion is not surprising given that it was requested by a legislator who sponsored a bill to repeal Florida's red-light safety camera law," the release said.

The release added: "It's also curious how this report issued by the state legislature criticizes local revenue but makes no mention of eliminating the state portion of the fine."

Cook said the use of the cameras should be left up to the local governments.

Brandes said his measure (SB 144) to repeal the 2010 law had been on hold pending the Feb. 7 release of the legislative study, and he hopes to have the bill moving in a couple of weeks.

The Senate Transportation Committee is expected to review a committee proposal on Thursday that proposes a freeze on the installation of new red-light cameras that would start July 1.

The study doesn't determine if cameras have improved safety, and notes that most county and municipal governments in Florida started to use the cameras without first addressing alternative countermeasures.

"When examining crashes by type at red-light camera intersections on state roads, we determined that statewide, crashes resulting in a disregarded traffic signal citation decreased by 19 percent and those resulting in fatalities decreased by 49 percent," the report stated. "However, angle crashes (the crashes most commonly associated with red light running) increased by 22 percent at red-light camera intersections."

Also, rear-end crashes grew by 35 percent, helping to increase total crashes at intersections with red light cameras by 12 percent.

With violators charged \$158, of which \$83 goes to state, revenue from the fines has grown from \$37.6 million in the 2011 fiscal year to \$118.9 million last year.

The cameras were in use at 922 approaches to intersections in 79 jurisdictions -- mostly by municipalities -- in 26 counties, as of June 30, 2013. Miami took in the most revenue last year from red light runners caught on camera, \$5.8 million, followed by Miami Gardens, Tampa, Apopka, North Miami, Orlando and Hollywood, which each took in more than \$1.5 million.

Brandes added that he will ask Attorney General Pam Bondi to look into allegation of fraud involving RedFlex Traffic Systems, the Arizona-based firm that has installed and monitors red-light traffic cameras in Jacksonville and other cities.

The company is embroiled in a bribery scandal in Chicago, and the Chicago Tribune has reported that a fired RedFlex executive had accused the company of undertaking similar arrangements with officials in 13 states, including Florida.

A spokesman for Bondi said Monday afternoon that no request to investigate RedFlex had been made to the office.

Prior to the press conference, America Traffic Solutions, which markets the cameras, proclaimed the study affirms the safety of the cameras in reducing serious injuries, and that better data collection and analysis is needed to understand the information related to rear-end and side-angle crash data.

"In July 2013, (Sen.) Jeff Brandes sponsored several updates to the Mark Wandall Traffic Safety Act which became law and are just now taking effect," America Traffic Solutions stated in a release. "These included changes to the issuance of right-on-red violations and the appeals process. In its report OPPAGA offers several additional recommendations to further improve the program statewide. We look forward to working constructively with our customers and the legislature to enhance the effectiveness of Florida's red-light safety camera law."

Feb. 5

PANEL PASSES 'COMMON SENSE' TWEAK TO SCHOOL GUN POLICIES

A bill backed by the National Rifle Association that lawmakers said would add "common sense" to zero-tolerance policies for guns in public schools sailed through a House education panel on Wednesday. The measure (PCB KTS 14-02) by House Judiciary Chairman Dennis Baxley, R-Ocala, would prevent children from being disciplined for simulating a gun while playing or wearing clothes that depict firearms. Baxley called the measure "the pop-tart bill" -- a reference to a widely reported news story about a Maryland 7-year-old who was suspended from school last year for chewing his breakfast pastry into the shape of a gun. "Obviously we don't want firearms brought to school in a backpack," Baxley said. "But we were definitely having some over-reactions." According to national news reports,

incidents have included punishing students for drawing a picture of a gun, using a finger as an imaginary gun while making the sound of a gun, owning a miniature gun on a keychain, owning a gun made of Legos and wearing a National Rifle Association T-shirt to school.

COURT UPHOLDS RED-LIGHT CAMERA NOTICE

A South Florida appeals court Wednesday upheld the constitutionality of a state law that requires notices of red-light camera violations to be sent to the first listed owner on a vehicle's registration. The 4th District Court of Appeal overturned a Broward County judge's decision in a case filed by Rhadames Gonzalez, who in 2011 received a notice from the city of Fort Lauderdale of a red-light violation that carried a \$158 penalty. Gonzalez did not pay the fine and later filed a legal challenge. The vehicle photographed running a red light was jointly owned by Rhadames and Nuris Gonzalez, though Rhadames Gonzalez was the first listed owner on the registration. Broward County Judge Steven P. DeLuca ruled that Rhadames Gonzalez's due-process and equal-protection rights had been violated, in part, because the law allowed "random prosecution" of one owner while the other owner of a vehicle would be "granted in effect immunity," according to Wednesday's appeals-court ruling. A three-judge panel of the appeals court disagreed with DeLuca, saying that the law is justified for administrative reasons. "The procedure of issuing a citation only to the first named owner is simple and easy to administer," said the ruling, written by Judge Carole Taylor and joined by Chief Judge Dorian Damoorgian and Judge Robert Gross. "It also makes the most sense economically, as it eliminates the duplicative waste of mailing the same notice to multiple vehicle owners. Duplicative notices may lead to duplicative payments, thereby causing additional administrative costs associated with refunding overpayments."

Feb. 4

HOUSE PANEL BACKS BAN ON INSURERS DISCRIMINATING AGAINST GUN OWNERS

Insurance companies could face tougher penalties if they impose higher rates, refuse to issue or cancel auto or homeowner policies due to gun ownership, under a measure backed by a House committee Tuesday. Florida law already prohibits such action, but Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Fort Walton Beach, said his proposal (HB 255) would provide a remedy other than with the state Office of Insurance Regulation by allowing a policyholder to sue if an insurer took such an action. "It just gives greater access to courts," Gaetz said. "It's unlawful now, but the only entity that has the ability to enforce it right now is OIR." A staff analysis of the bill notes that "an issue with the current law is that it lacks specific authority to take action against any insurers which violate the proscribed behavior." Gaetz added that while such actions by insurers haven't been seen in Florida, cases have been tracked in Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania. "In Florida that has not been a circumstance, but this is a prophylactic in the event that events we've seen in other parts of the country proliferate here," Gaetz said. Rep. Kevin Rader, D-Delray Beach, an insurance agent, cast the lone vote on the Insurance and Banking Subcommittee against the measure. He called the measure "unnecessary."

"GI BILLS" ON THE MARCH IN HOUSE, SENATE

Lawmakers are moving forward with proposals to spend up to \$30 million to make Florida even friendlier to the military and veterans by expanding educational and professional opportunities and improving facilities. House and Senate committees gave unanimous, bipartisan support on Tuesday to separate "GI Bills" backed by Republican leaders. While the measures are not packaged identically, Rep. Jimmie Smith, an Inverness Republican and Desert Storm veteran who has been entrusted with the House version (HB 7015), said he doesn't expect much difficulty in aligning the proposals. "Without a doubt we'll be able to come together on a bill we both like," Smith said after the House Appropriations Committee backed changes to the House bill. Sen. Thad Altman, a Viera Republican who is chairman of the Senate Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security Committee, said the final offering might even surpass the House's current \$30 million proposal. Altman's committee gave its support Tuesday to the Senate proposal (SB 7020). "That's a good number, I hope we can get higher than that," Altman said. "The biggest thing about this is that we're literally recruiting veterans to come to Florida."

SENATE PANEL BACKS HURRICANE-TAX HOLIDAY

One of the sales-tax holidays backed by Gov. Rick Scott received Senate committee support Monday, but minor turbulence could be ahead as the measure travels through the Legislature. While Scott has recommended a 15-day period

in June for a list of hurricane-related items to be sales-tax free, the Senate Commerce and Tourism Committee approved a version of the proposal (SB 362) that stands at 12 days. Senate bill sponsor Rob Bradley, R-Fleming Island, called the differences between his measure and Scott's recommendation "minor details that need to be worked out." "The devil's in the details about how many days it's ultimately going to be," Bradley said. "There is some discussion about what items are going to be included or not included."

Jan. 31

SMITH: FREE PARKS AND TOLLS FOR PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS

Florida parks and roads would be toll-free for Purple Heart recipients living in Florida, under a measure (HB 763) filed Thursday by Rep. Jimmie Smith, R-Inverness. No cost analysis was immediately available for the proposal, which would require the state Department of Transportation to set up prepaid toll accounts to cover the toll-gate costs. Purple Heart recipients with valid Florida driver's licenses could apply for accounts and receive window sticker transponders that would allow the recipients' vehicles to travel at no cost through any toll facility owned by the state. The Division of Recreation and Parks would oversee issuing "lifetime family annual entrance passes at no charge" to Purple Heart recipients, according to the proposal. The state currently provides lifetime family passes to honorably discharged veterans who have service-connected disabilities and a 25 percent discount on park fees to active duty members and honorably discharged veterans of the armed forces and National Guard.

FLORIDA GI BILL SEEKS TO MAKE STATE MORE 'MILITARY FRIENDLY'

Pitching an aggressive state "GI Bill," Republican legislative leaders want to attract more military veterans to the Sunshine State and attract more people to the Florida National Guard. The hefty proposals (HB 7015 and SPB 7020), which include spending \$14.5 million a year for an expansion of free tuition for members of the National Guard, would create a non-profit to market Florida to former members of the U.S. military. Also, they would upgrade state armories, ease professional licensing for veterans and offer a waiver for all honorably discharged veterans from having to pay out-of-state tuition charges at state colleges and universities. The potential overall costs remain unknown. Katie Betta, a spokeswoman for Senate President Don Gaetz, R-Niceville, said Thursday that efforts are being made to ensure money is available to cover all the personnel who are expected to seek the various educational and business incentives. "Those numbers will become more defined as the bill moves through the process," Betta said. The biggest one-time cost would be to speed an ongoing revitalization program of state armories, which the National Guard projects will cost about \$30 million. The Department of Military Affairs has requested \$12.5 million for the upcoming year for armory improvements, providing upgrades for six facilities. The intent of the overall measure is to create more opportunities for Florida, said Gaetz and House Speaker Will Weatherford, R-Wesley Chapel, as they endorsed the Florida GI Bill on Wednesday. "We believe that there are some things that we can do to make sure we are the most military friendly state in the United States of America, bar none," Weatherford said.

WEEKLY ROUNDUP: GEARING UP FOR SESSION, CAMPAIGNS

The beginning of February brings with it a month that promises several things, from Valentine's Day to the beginning of spring training. And, for all intents and purposes, the start of the legislative session. Like pitchers and catchers who report and start spring training by knocking off the proverbial rust, lawmakers won't go into full sprint mode over the following month, instead holding committee meetings ahead of the official March 4 opening of the session. But also like the players who will soon show up at camp locations across Florida (and Arizona), they will lay the critical groundwork for what happens in the months ahead. So Gov. Rick Scott, House Speaker Will Weatherford and Senate President Don Gaetz spent part of Wednesday detailing their plans for the 2014 session to reporters and editors gathered for the Associated Press' annual legislative planning meeting in Tallahassee. Scott and his prime opponent, former Gov. Charlie Crist, also traded political shots at the event. Meanwhile, the Florida Supreme Court declined to snuff out a medical marijuana initiative that could change all of their calculations.

Darrin "Scribe" Brooks, State Legislative Trustee, ABATE of Florida, Inc.



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NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES

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

FARM BILL DETERS E15

Opponents of E15, such as motorcyclists whose vehicles are not approved to use fuel containing higher levels of ethanol, won a major victory on February 7, 2014 when President Barack Obama signed the Agricultural Act of 2014, with a provision removing subsidies for biofuel blending pumps.

The provision, tucked into page 735 of the 949-page farm bill, could make it more difficult for gasoline blended with higher concentrations of ethanol to find its way to rural areas, where demand for the fuel is greatest.

Blender pumps mix gasoline and ethanol for sale at gas stations, so restricting the grant money to purchase the pumps necessary to dispense E15 would greatly deter its distribution. That, in turn, could make it more difficult for the United States to implement a program known as the Renewable Fuel Standard, or RFS, which mandates increasing amounts of biofuels like corn-based ethanol be blended into the nation's fuel supply.

The Obama administration previously set a goal of installing 10,000 blender pumps to promote consumption of higher-ethanol gasoline, but currently only 59 stations across 12 states sell E15, compared with 125,000 U.S. gasoline stations.

The win for motorcycle and ATV owners, who risk damaging their machines and invalidating warranties by even inadvertently putting E15 in their tanks, follows a November move by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reduce for the first time the amount of ethanol required to be blended into U.S. gasoline supplies. Ironically, the EPA proposed the cuts in part due to concerns over the lack of infrastructure, such as blender pumps needed to sell gasoline with greater concentrations of ethanol.

MOTORCYCLE SALES INCREASE

The Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC) has reported that annual motorcycle sales grew 1.4% in 2013. The 465,783 unit total represents a 6,485 increase from 2012.

The dual-purpose and off-road segments enjoyed the greatest percentage annual growth, with scooter sales declining in 2013.

On-Highway motorcycles sales tallied 324,691 for the year, a 2% increase from 2012. The On-Highway segment is by far the largest tracked by the MIC, and it includes all street-legal bikes excepting dual-sports and scooters. It recorded a 6,485 unit year-over-year (YOY) increase.

The smallest volume segment, Dual, reported the largest YOY percentage increase at 7.8%. The Dual category includes small street-legal dual-sports as well as popular Adventure bikes. The yearly total for this market was 32,979 for a 2,387 unit increase in 2013.

Off-Highway motorcycle sales grew 5.7% for the year. The annual total of 73,371 represents a 3,976 unit boost from last year. The near 4000-unit gain comes despite a slow finish in 2013, recording a YOY decrease of 1,025 units in December.

Scooter sales, which are traditionally more volatile than bike sales, struggled to match 2012 totals. The annual tally of 34,742 was 6,363 units short of the 2012 total – a 15.5% decline.

ATV sales for 2013 posted a nearly identical tally of 228,305 – a mere 0.5% increase over 2012. The quad market benefited from a strong December to push the annual tally into the black, with a 1,799 unit increase YOY for the month. Notably, the MIC does not track sales for UTV and side-by-side units, which have reportedly eclipsed ATV sales in recent years.

STATES RANKED BY MOTORCYCLE OWNERSHIP

With 8,410,255 motorcycles registered to 311,800,000 U.S. citizens, according to the most recent DOT and Census data that means that out of every 37 Americans you meet, one of them probably owns a motorcycle. But in some states your odds are better than others, and when you compare statewide motorcycle registrations with population figures, you might be surprised where some states stand in the rankings.

For example, Iowa comes in third with 18 people for every motorcycle, more than double the national average. In 2011 the state had 173,929 motorcycles registered, and a population of just over three million.

The second highest ratio of bike ownership is in New Hampshire, whose 1.3 million population shares 79,266 motorcycles, equaling 17 people per motorcycle.

First on the list is South Dakota with 12 people for each motorcycle, over three times the national average. In 2011 the state had 69,284 motorcycles registered, representing just 0.82% of all motorcycles in America, but its sparse population of 816,598 gives it the highest concentration of motorcycling in the country.

Rounding out the Top Ten are; Wisconsin (4th with 18 people per bike); Wyoming (5th/19); North Dakota (6th/21); Vermont (7th/21); Montana (8th/21); Minnesota (9th/22) and Alaska (10th/23).

The Ten Lowest ranked states are; South Carolina (40th/43 people per bike); Kentucky (41st/44); Hawaii (42nd/45); California (43rd/47); Utah (44th/47); Maryland (45th/48); Georgia (46th/49); New York (47th/56); Texas (48th/58); Louisiana (49th/67, almost half the U.S. average); and lastly Mississippi (50th/106, nearly a third the norm).

It's interesting to note that due to large populations, some of the states with the largest numbers of motorcycles finished low on the rider density list; California is number one in motorcycles owned with 801,803, representing 9.5% of all motorcycles in the U.S., but with a population of over 37 million it comes in a lackluster 43rd place! Likewise, New York with 345,816 motorcycles, and Texas with 438,551, came in near the bottom of the rankings.

It is also worth noting that only one of the Top Ten motorcycling states has a helmet law, while 6 of the 10 least bike-friendly states requires riders to wear them.

MISSOURI PUSHES TO CHANGE BAN ON SUNDAY MOTORCYCLE SALES

Like many states, it is against the law in Missouri for dealers to sell cars, trucks or motorcycles on Sunday. Due to archaic "Blue Laws" influenced by religion during the Colonial Period, sales are prohibited on the Sabbath, but there is a trend brewing and some states are removing this outdated ban.

The latest state to allow Sunday motorcycle sales was Indiana last July, when Hoosiers joined Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Maryland in removing their Sunday sales ban.

Now Missouri's Blue Law is being challenged, and lawmakers are proposing three bills that would allow for motorcycles to be sold in Platte and Jackson Counties on Sundays. The reason is because some Kansas City metro dealers feel it is not fair that they can't sell on Sundays when just across the border in the neighboring state of Kansas, dealers can.

Other states that currently prohibit the Sunday sales of motorcycles and automobiles are Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, Oklahoma, North Dakota and Wisconsin. In Missouri, dealers are not even allowed to discuss a sale on Sunday, or face a \$300 fine and possible jail time.

NY LAWMAKER SAYS BIKES SHOULDN'T BE ALLOWED IN HIS DISTRICT

Legislator Thomas F. Barraga (R-11th District) says people should not ride bikes at all in his district because "Suffolk County is a suburban automobile community -- drivers expect to see other drivers on the road, not bicyclists and motorcyclists."

The anti-motorcycle/bicycle lawmaker from West Islip, New York made those remarks in response to a high school senior who wrote to him as a part of a government class assignment.

On January 29, the 17-year old, Matthew Cutrone, wrote to Barraga requesting "some sort of bike lane or maybe even warning signs in certain areas of the county" after his mother was hit by the driver of a van that illegally turned left in front of her.

Stating that he believes that "no one who lives in our hamlet or for that matter Suffolk County should ever ride a bicycle or motorcycle," Barraga's callous response lit up social media and prompted a ton of angry responses, though the legislator said he's standing by his remarks.

WASHINGTON STATE RIDERS LOBBY TO TURN LEFT ON RED

Motorcyclists in Washington could turn left at an intersection if the traffic light doesn't give them the green arrow after a complete cycle under a bill that received strong support from the Senate in Olympia.

SB 5141 would change state traffic laws to account for a problem some motorcyclists have at intersections controlled by sensors that fail to recognize them. They don't register on the sensor, and the left-turn arrow never turns green, said Senator Jim Hargrove, a Hoquiam Democrat who rides a motorcycle and said he's experienced the problem first-hand.

Under the proposed legislation, a motorcyclist would have to wait through a complete cycle of lights changing for all directions before making a left-turn when clear. The bill passed on a 46-2 vote. The same bill passed the Senate last session but didn't receive a final vote in the House.

MICHIGAN MOTORCYCLE SAFETY BILL WOULD PREVENT REPEAT OFFENDERS

Michigan lawmakers are looking to close an "apparent loophole" that allows motorcycle operators to obtain a temporary permit each riding season without ever completing a safety course or skills test required for full endorsement.

Temporary Instruction Permits, intended for new or returning riders, are valid for 180 days and require operators to travel alongside an endorsed adult. But enforcement is difficult, and TIP holders are significantly over-represented in traffic accidents each year; 52% of riders who crashed were not properly endorsed.

Current law allows operators to obtain a temporary permit every season. But House Bill 4781, introduced by state Rep. Bradford Jacobsen (R-Oxford) and 15 co-sponsors, would limit motorcycle operators to two TIPs over the course of a 10 year period. "That's certainly adequate time to ride with a friend, take an instruction course and get the experience necessary to drive a motorcycle," Jacobsen said in testimony before the House Transportation Committee, which has not voted on the bill.

"It's a no brainer really," said Vince Consiglio, president of ABATE Michigan, which led efforts to repeal the mandatory helmet law but also supports stronger endorsement requirements. "These unendorsed riders are maybe 10 or 20 percent of the population, but they're over 40 percent of the fatalities since 1989. It's incredible that nothing has happened."

Officials have known about the endorsement issue for years, and the Secretary of State and Office of Highway Safety Planning have both pushed educational programs to raise awareness. But education alone is not working, prompting motorcycle safety advocates to push for legislative action.

ABATE OF INDIANA SEEKS TO ALLOW OFF-ROAD VEHICLES ON COUNTY ROADWAYS

Indiana state law bans driving off-road vehicles on public streets, but ABATE of Indiana, a motorcycle advocacy group, is asking Tippecanoe County commissioners to exercise a clause that allows county officials to allow all-terrain vehicles, gators and various other off-road machines, including snowmobiles, to use county roads in unincorporated areas.

"We're just requesting that they at least evaluate this, look at what other communities have done with this -- what other counties have done with this" said Jay Jackson, executive director of American Bikers Aimed Toward Education. "We're not aware of any significant ramifications as a result, so we don't see a downside to it."

Jackson told commissioners that 45 Indiana counties allow off-road vehicles on public roads. The vehicles still must comply with state laws governing off-road vehicles. State law requires the rider or driver be 16 years old and licensed, and also requires that the vehicle be registered, much like a boat.

WEIRD NEWS: APB FOR MR. HARLEY DAVIDSON

Police in Guapa, Brazil, investigating a string of carjackings believed they found a key piece of evidence that could blow the case wide open: a Harley-Davidson cap belonging to a suspect: "He left a grey T-shirt which he had used to cover his face, and also a baseball cap with a skull embroidered on it, along with the name Harley, and the citizen's surname, Davidson, who is probably the miscreant we're looking for," a police officer told a local news station.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "True patriotism hates injustice in its own land more than anywhere else."

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News from the AMA

House panel to hold hearing on highway safety grants, motorcycle-only checkpoints

On Jan. 28, the U.S. House Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, chaired by U.S. Rep. Tom Petri (R-Wis.), will hold a hearing on “Improving the Effectiveness of the Federal Surface Transportation Safety Grant Programs.”

The American Motorcyclist Association has concerns about the safety grants funds being directed away from motorcycle-related safety programs.

Diverting these federal funds weakens support for safety and training programs, while also making it more difficult for states to qualify for future grants.

Even more troubling, states are using federal highway safety grants to fund motorcycle-only checkpoints, a discriminatory practice the AMA has been fighting since its introduction in 2008 in New York.

Under the “Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act,” known as MAP-21, states qualify for a grant by meeting two of six criteria: Motorcycle Rider Training Courses; Motorcyclists Awareness Program; Reduction of Fatalities and Crashes Involving Motorcycles; Impaired Driving Program; Reduction of Fatalities and Accidents Involving Impaired Motorcyclists; and Use of Fees Collected from Motorcyclists for Motorcycle Program.

The AMA’s concern centers on the criterion for the Use of Fees Collected From Motorcyclists for Motorcycle Programs.

Last year, the state of Ohio attempted to abolish the Motorcycle Safety and Education Fund and transfer its funds to the State Highway Safety Fund. The Motorcycle Safety and Education Fund, coupled with student tuition fees, fund the Motorcycle Ohio rider education program. After input from the AMA and other interested groups, Ohio withdrew the provision from its proposed budget.

If Ohio had been successful in transferring the motorcycle safety funds, the state would have been unable to meet one of the criteria for applying for a safety grant under § 405 of MAP-21. Specifically, the section requires that “all fees collected by the State from motorcyclists for the purposes of funding motorcycle training and safety programs will be used for motorcycle training and safety programs.”

Of more concern, the state of New York used motorcycle safety grants from Section 402 to fund motorcycle-only checkpoints. New York budgeted \$490,000 of federal taxpayer funds for the fiscal 2012 and 2013.

That money should go toward strategies to prevent motorcycle crashes and should not be used to subject riders to arbitrary stops and roadside inspections.

To view the AMA's efforts to end motorcycle-only checkpoints, go to
<http://www.americanmotorcyclist.com/rights/motorcycleonly>

Darrin "Scribe" Brooks,
 State Legislative Trustee,
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donations go to your local M. O.

OR INFO, CALL OR EMAIL KIRK AT [\(239\) 272 6194](mailto:kirkexp@aol.com) NO GUNS, PETS OR ATTITUDES
SAFETY & MEMBERSHIP WILL BE AVAILABLE !
Donations to ABATE OF FLORIDA INC. are non deductible for federal income tax purposes. ABATE of Florida inc. & Estero chapter do not condone drinking & or riding/biking

ABATE Palm Beach Chapter Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2014

The gavel came down loudly upon its strike plate and President of the Chapter brought the meeting to order at 11:40am. There were 18 members present. The Chapter recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and observed brief time of reverent silence.

President Ed "Nighthawk" Lattari – Nighthawk informed the Chapter that Sergeant at Arms, Pete "Petee" Carroll would not be present and was excused. The Chapter's cargo trailer has been ordered and is expected to be ready at the end of February. Hamish and Niblick will be picking up the trailer. The Chapter was urged to avail themselves of accommodations at the ABATE campground during Daytona Bike Week. A reminder was given regarding dangerous conditions created by witless out of state drivers during tourist season.

Vice President Dan “Slo Motion” Henderson – Slo Motion, reporting on various ABATE State issues, informed the Chapter that the MasterLink will be available online, and that members can opt-out of receiving the MasterLink via the mail if they choose, saving ABATE money by doing so. The MasterLink editor has passed away. The ABATE State Secretary has stepped down from his position due to family issues. ABATE State nominations for State Board level positions are upcoming.

Secretary Charles “CB” Barcellona - CB is donating \$125 to defray miscellaneous expenses for the Chapter's new trailer, and will also match up to \$125 donated by Chapter members during the March meeting, bringing the total donation up to a possible \$375 to cover any unbudgeted expenses. The Chapter's Board of Directors and Trustees nominations for 2014-2015 will begin in March.

Treasurer Debbie “Foxybabe” Wenger – Foxybabe summarized the Chapter's financial status in a report to the Chapter. The Chapter is financially solvent. ABATE State cash drawing tickets are due back to the Treasurer. The ABATE State tax exempt reorganization should advance to the official "Pending" status in March. Considerable discussion followed, regarding status of donations that may be received under the "Pending" status. The Chapter will not solicit donations under the new status until details regarding the donations are resolved to the satisfaction of the Chapter's Executive Board.

Membership Trustee Debbie “Foxybabe” Wenger – Foxybabe presented a summary membership report, citing two hundred thirty-nine members. There are currently 234 members. Hamish received his Life Membership credentials, and Chapter member Phil received his Life Membership pin.

Sgt. at Arms Pete "Petee" Carroll – Assistant Sgt. at Arms Cary had no additional report.

State Delegates Dan “Slo Motion” Henderson and Ken “Snooze” Gerecke – A new Florida Legislative session will begin soon. There is a increasingly better chance of regaining the State of Florida funding for safety programs. April will include the annual Ride To the Capital in Tallahassee.

Products Trustee (position open) - No report

Newsletter Trustee Dan “Slo Motion Henderson – New ads are a current work in progress, and advertising will be expanded. The Chrome Chronicles is still seeking an individual to help solicit advertising.

Safety Trustee Charlie “Niblick” Wenger – Absent, excused.

Old Business – Snooze is currently barely in the lead in the Road Dog competition. A Chapter Products Trustee is being sought.

New Business – No new business

Good of the Order – Chapter member Burger made announcements regarding upcoming local events. Foxbabe had the winning 50/50 drawing ticket.

The motion to adjourn was passed, the gavel was struck, and the meeting concluded at 12:20pm

This concludes the minutes of the February 16th, 2014 meeting of ABATE Palm Beach Chapter.



MOTOR
BIKER
CYCLES

RIDE HARD

YOU CAN REST
WHEN YOU DIE

"The Bikers Code"



BIKE NIGHT

Island Jack's
Pub & Grille

Budweiser
KING OF BEERS

The Great American Lager

Jägermeister

THE PLACE TO BE... 6 to 10pm WEDNESDAY NIGHT!!
"Where Locals Catch.... A Bite & Brew"

Live Classic Rock Bands-Cold Beer & Hot Wings

Sponsored By Gorilla Motors

25¢ Oysters 6 to 8 Raffles & Giveaways Vendors Welcome \$


50¢ Wings 

250 BOTTLES 

Budweiser
THE GREAT AMERICAN LAGER

4449 Okeechobee Blvd. WPB
(561) 687 - 2122

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 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

These ads are free to members so send in your items.



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: ____

First : _____ Last : _____ Road : _____

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 you need mailed check here _____. It costs over \$18 to mail, so donations are appreciated \$_____

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 of membership, patches, etc. 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

ABATE of Florida, Inc Lake County Chapter's



Campground open to the public
for Leesburg BikeFest™

Campground is located off of Hwy 27 & CR 48 –6 miles S from downtown LSBG. Coming from N on 27 pass CR 33 & Turn Right at the gas station, by the light. Coming from the S on 27, turn left at the light 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 24, 25, 26, 27, 2014

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

TIME: gates open Thurs 8 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/>

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

Breakfast Buffet/Supper –

Beverages & Entertainment available at Eagles Aerie

Take-A-Break Poker Run-

Sat sign up outside of the ABATE campground from 9:30-11.

Last bike back to campground by 4:30. Cost is \$10 pp. Trophies awarded

Chapter Pres: Griz 352-742-7754 President@LAKE.abateflorida.com
Chapter VP: Tuna 352-409-1919 VPLakeABATE@embarqmail.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 fund our work through toy runs, poker runs, campouts, & 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.

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

Mainstreet Campground at Leesburg Bikefest

PRE-REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT: www.leesburgmainstreetcampground.com

April 24-27, 2014

PUBLIC RV & Tent Camping

1512 State Road 44 Leesburg, FL 34748

VENDORS

HOT SHOWERS

FULL BAR

24 HOUR SECURITY

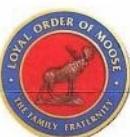
RESTAURANT

\$12 per person per night (pre-registration rate) \$15 at the Gate

\$10 one-time fee for RV/Trailer

Gates open at Noon—Thursday until Noon-Sunday

(Ask about the Moose Member Discount)



For more information contact:

Nature Coast: Frank, President @ 352-538-6193 or Steve, Vice President- 352-870-9984

Seminole County: Rande, President @ 321-277-9912 or Mychelle, Vice President @ 407-719-2108

Donations to ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. are not deductible for federal income tax purposes. NO PETS ALLOWED unless registered Service Animals- documentation required. ABATE Safety & Membership Information Available at Check-in. ABATE of Florida, Inc. does not condone drinking and driving.

Next Palm Beach Chapter Meeting VFW POST 4143

4th SUNDAY March 23, 2014 11:30 am due to Bikeweek

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.