# A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments American Bikers Aiming Toward Education



# ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. PALM BEACH CHAPTER

EChrome Chronicles

**ISSUE 105 2014-05** 

ABATEPALMBEACH.COM

**May 2014** 



CHAPTER
MEETING
11:30 AM

<u>3rd</u>

Sunday May 18

CHECK TWICE FOR MOTORCYCLES

WHO RIDE
DECIDE!



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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

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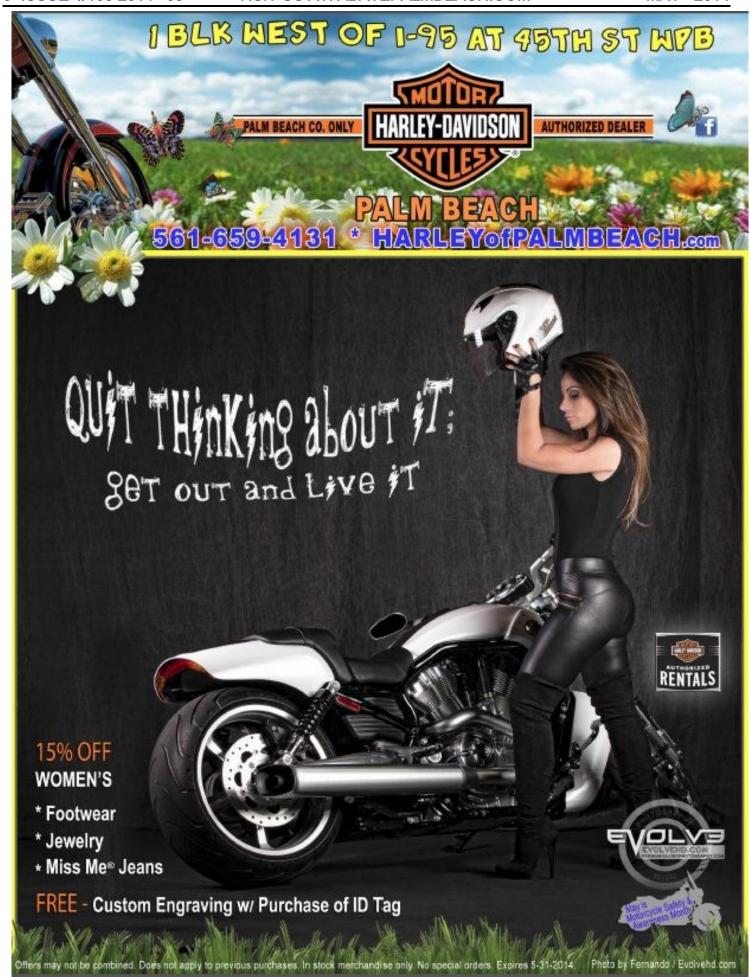
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#### **IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT**

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

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



# **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 month's Presidents message I just received some bad news today. Last Friday, April 25 Shari Carney died in a tragic motorcycle accident on Northlake Blvd and Coconut in the Acreage. When heading west on Northlake, just before the left turn on to Coconut lane there is a U turn lane with a curb at its turning point. Apparently she got in the U turn lane instead of the left turn lane and hit the curb at the end causing her and the bike to launch over the curb causing a fatal injury. Now I wasn't there to witness the accident but this is how I understood

how it happened. I've been past that U-turn lane many times before making the left onto Coconut. I don't know what the purpose of having the curb is anyway; wouldn't just the painted lines be sufficient? From what I understand is that curbs are mostly for helping with drainage. How many lives of bikers have to be lost before they realize how dangerous they are to bikers? Angled curbs would be much safer and gives a biker a chance when hit straight on.



Well another Leesburg Bikefest is in the books and this year sure didn't disappoint! This was the best Leesburg trip yet for me! Crowds seemed to be as big as ever. This year's headliner was Jackyl and they and the Puh Pow girls rocked Leesburg better than ever before! ABATE PBC had its biggest turn out yet at the ABATE Lake County Chapter campgrounds! Once again the campground there is the best party campground by far thanks to the hospitality of the Eagles and the BIKERFL.com portable entertainment stage. This year at the campground somebody complained about the entertainment at the campground. All I can say is they suck! We had a prime spot diagonally across from them and had an awesome time. As usual our Chapter left its mark with a big crowd of late night partiers! If you want the details ask someone who went, if you do, you'll be there next year too! As usual at all these big bike rallies be careful riding out there, the cagers are clueless with so many bikes on the road. One tried taking me and my passenger out, fortunately I ended up avoiding the major collision but still went down with minimal injury to myself and bike while managing to dump my passenger onto the grass at slow speed at the same time keeping her unharmed. I got lucky considering how that could have turned out. Not 5 minutes later we pulled into a gas station where Snooze hit an empty Gatorade plastic bottle while braking at slow speed causing his front tire to slide out putting Snooze face down on the pavement with his bike on top of his ankle! Fortunately he and his bike were OK. I think it may have been a sympathy fall for my little mishap! Now that's a brother! Now you may be thinking I started this paragraph stating it was the best Leesburg trip ever. Then told you how me and Kenny both went down on our bikes, but we had so much fun that those little incidents were easily forgettable!

In other news, Charlie Wenger our Safety Trustee and State Safety director is in the hospital with a nasty leg infection. I'm hoping by the time this goes to print he will be out and on the road to recovery. Next month in June will be our annual elections and our June event. I will be endorsing Snooze for Vice President and hope you will cast your vote for him. Snooze as VP will help me to continue keeping the respect that the chapter has earned in the community. He has been attending the C of C meetings for the past year and with your help he can attend the UBCPBC meetings with me as well. Snooze earned the title of 2013 ABATE PBC Road Dog due to his commitment to making the chapter rides. When it comes to being my right hand man, Snooze deserves the job! He was nominated by Slo Mo Dan to be his replacement as VP. Of course we will still have Slo Mo as our Legislative Delegate, newsletter, webmaster etc. etc. guy. We still haven't made a deal yet on where our event will be but keep the date open anyway!

Anyway 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

# **UPCOMING Group Fun Rides/Event Schedule**

<u>May 10 Saturday Fly-In Wheels MC Hard Times Party!</u> Group Fun Ride Meet spot is Hess gas station Southeast corner of Okeechobee and Jog 1:45pm KU 2pm.

May 17 Saturday U.S. Military Vets MC Annual Group Fun Ride ABATE PBC Safety and Info Table Meet spot is Shell gas station Forest Hill and Military trail 11:45am KU Noon OR meet for breakfast at Deli Inn (one block north of Forest Hill on Military) 10:30am

#### May 18 Sunday ABATE PBC Chapter meeting Group Fun Ride after chapter meeting.

ABATE Palm Beach Chapter Meeting 11:30 AM V.F.W. Post 4143 located at 2404 Broadway, Riviera Beach 561-844-5718. From I 95 exit Blue Heron Blvd. go east to Broadway (Federal Hwy., US-1) turn right, go south 1 block the V.F.W. is on the east side. Look for the flag.

<u>May 25 Sunday ABATE Southeast Chapter Memorial Day Event</u> Group Fun Ride being held at Elks Lodge #1898 in Pompano. Meet spot is Shell Gas Station Lantana Road just East of I-95 11:45pm KU 12 Noon.

#### **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 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 <u>561-309-5412</u> now!

#### ABATE ROAD DOG COMPETITION (as of 4/29/14)

Snooze 21pt, Hamish 19 1/2pt, Fred 7pt, Craig 9pt, Tippy 7pt, Cary 6pt. Go T Dan 5pt, Ladyhawk 9 1/2pt, Treva 8 1/2pt, Sylvan 3 pt, Charlie (Mrs. Hamish) 6pt, Quiet Dan 2pt, James B 2pt, Kita 2pt, Zim 2pt, Debbie K 7 1/2pt, Davey Jones 4pt, Low Ryder Dave 1pt, Bwana 1pt, Trey 1pt, Phil M 1 pt, Joe M 3pt, Burger 1pt, Jerry W 1pt, Butch

1pt, Jen 2pt, Lance 1 pt, 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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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

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Newsletter is now accessible on our ABATE palmbeach.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.

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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:

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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

This will be my last VP report. Since my health issues last year, my involvement with rides and events was down. As I am having shoulder surgery in June with 4 weeks of sling and 3 months of rehab my riding will again be limited. So we need someone able to attend the rides and events. This was why I nominated "Snooze" for Vice President. Since now I am a State Webmaster Trustee and sit at the Board table, Deb "Foxybabe" has been sitting as a Delegate. She has done some good reports. So it is nice to have some other voices present in the newsletter. I will continue to do the Legislative report, or do we have any takers for that?



I do plan on doing a editor's column and the VP's VICE picks will now be the editor's picks to keep Nighthawk and =CB= happy. Always good to have one of Data's articles and I welcome more input. Remember the FREE members' classifieds – items to sell or things you are looking for.

If you read Nighthawk's President's message about Shari's accident, you should know I have been opposed to all the roadside curbing for some time. I've brought it up at state meetings and wondered how to get DOT to stop it. As Ed talks about the curbing danger to bikers with this case, I remember Santa Dave also hit a curb that led to his death. I once almost rolled a pickup after avoiding a bicycle. I was out of the skid perfectly until I hit the curb and almost flipped it. I never saw any point to curbs. If done to help drainage, they do the opposite flooding roads by backing up drains instead of flowing over the roadsides. They also block traffic if car breaks down and can't get off road. When police pull over a car, you need to give them extra lane which may not be possible since they are still on the road. Maybe we should fight to be curbless.

Now for my final VICE picks. As you see on the cover, the TattooMania Mania Dolls have been at many Palm Beach Harley events. You know I will be there with my camera! And don't miss Palm Beach Harley Bike Night 3rd Thurs

with photo shots with girls like the one on right below.

#### April 6, 2014 Harley Palm Beach Chili Cook Off





# PRODUCT REVIEW

### by Dan "Slo Motion" Henderson

Last month I told you about the helmet I purchased during Bikeweek from J&P Cycles at Destination Daytona. I really am liking it as finally found a 2XL that fits comfortable. Great quick snap strap makes it easy to put on and get off, I hated those ring types. And the internal drop sun shades are fantastic. I did a lot of shopping those two weekends so I can now do a product review column. This new column is open to everyone to submit things they like or even better, didn't like. So send me your stories.

## Saddlemen FTB1500 Sport Sissy bar bag

I have always used some kind of a bag on my backrest and luggage rack to carry things to work or my camera to events. I look for the type with many O-rings so can attach with a connected pair of bungees. I really liked the *Saddlemen* roll type, I had worn out several. I had a *Mustang* roll bag that was larger but didn't seem to carry as much. While the *Saddlemen* was better, both had round top openings that were difficult to load magazines/ newsletters in. I have a large T-bag to take on weekend trips but wanted something smaller. I found the perfect solution for me with the **Saddlemen FTB1500 Sport Sissy bar bag**. I like that is has strap that goes over the sissy



bar and the rings for the bungees. The main cargo compartment flap opens fully with solid tethered sides for easy loading, great for loading plenty of newsletters, magazines. And even the oversized *Thunder Press*. It has internal mesh storage compartments in the front to secure smaller items while keeping them visible so you can locate your items fast. It even has pen holders and a pocket inside side panels. It has two big outside pockets so for its' small size it can hold a lot. The size is 11-1/2" L x 20" W x 16" H with J&P price of \$99.99. The FTB1000 model is 10" L x 19" W x 15.5" H and ten dollars less. I like the larger one as room for my newsletters for distribution and still plenty of space for my camera. You can check this product out at events as almost always have it on the bike. Go to <a href="http://www.saddlemen.com/">http://www.saddlemen.com/</a> or search for Saddlemen bags at <a href="http://www.jpcycles.com/">http://www.jpcycles.com/</a> for a complete list of their various models, they even have a pet carrier! I highly recommend the Saddlemen line and J&P Cycles has a large collection to

choice from with easy online ordering..





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- (50) SECOND PRIZES
  - \* Harley-Davidson® Riding Academy Rider Course for you and a guest

MUST ATTEND TO ENTER



### STATE MEETINGS

2014 - Host Chapter - Location

June 14 Vintage - St. Augustine

Oct. 11 Hillsborough - Brooksville Spooks and Scoots

Dec. 13 Treasure Coast



## **DELEGATE REPORTS**

#### Ken "Snooze" Gerecke

Last month's State Meeting and Freedom Rights Rally was held in Tallahassee and hosted by ABATE of Florida, Inc. Debbie, Charlie, Dan and I made the long trip up there to attend the meeting and ride to the Capital. It was awesome as usual but a little disappointing this year. We didn't get to talk to as many legislative offices as we would have liked to. Most of them took the week off but we did talk with a few assistants. Next year there will be some changes as to when we go hopefully all the representatives we need to talk with will be there. The next state meeting will be held in St. Augustine on June 14<sup>th</sup>. It will be hosted by the Vintage Chapter. State Board elections will be held at that meeting. We will be voting on these as well as our lobbyist position on behalf of our chapter. Also State Sgt. At Arms "Mudder" reminded us all that if there is an incident on a on a ride or ABATE event it must be reported to the state office within 24 hours. This policy is to protect both you and ABATE of Florida.

Till next month ride safe, ride smart!!

#### Debbie "Foxybabe" Wenger

The state meeting for April was held in Monticello, FL just outside of Tallahassee. President Danny Fish reports that due to the Bonding all State Executive Board will have to have background checks. Thanked the members for coming today based on the Legislative taking the whole week before Easter off. Vice President Emory Griffis asked if you are going to call and leave a message please make sure when you leave your message that you indicate which Chapter you are with. Secretary Karen Carawan had no corrections to the last Secretary Report. Treasurer Patty Nasrallah updated us on the 501c3. Sgt at Arms Mudder stressed how important it is to turn in your incident/accident reports within 24 hours. State office Boots reported that Flyers for Events are not to be released until confirmation of insurance has been received. Please follow the SOP. Send Flyers by email to be approved before sending the rest of the paperwork. Make sure Officer Updates are sent to the State. Membership report was giving Grace Lord, Updates give in the delegate packets. Awards given for highest percentage of Growth for January and February 2014. Most New Members for January and February 2014. Total Members and Total Voters. Life Cards handed out. Masterlink position is open Patti Nasrallah provided brief report. PR/Communications Ronda Griffis reported that May is Motorcycle awareness Month. Critters Pub which was a stop on the Bike Week Boondocks Run has taken down the no colors allowed sign. Website Dan "Slo Mo" Henderson reports that the State needs the officer updates before he can process any changes to the chapter websites. Dan will be holding a class at Leadership Seminars. Safety Director Charlie Wenger passed out New MSAP Certificates, Flash Drives which contain the Safety videos. Make sure your safety reports are sent to the State office. If your chapter has signatures for the petition please turn them in. Products trustee Steve Knee announced that everything that is putout will have the www.AbateFlorida.com on it. Presented the idea of a Wind Feather, this was well received. He also suggested backpacks. He has asked that the chapters find out what the schools allow for backpacks and bring the information back to the next meeting. 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. Legislative trustee Darren Brooks filled us in on what to talk to the Adds and or Congressman that where working on Monday when we visit the Capitol. Bike week was discussed, Thank you for all that sold drawing tickets. Awards given out for most tickets sold, Lake County, Treasure Coast and Estero Chapters and hours worked. Tallahassee we are still going. Next year we need to do something different so that we can see then when we go. We would keep the April State meeting and put it out for bid and change the ride to the Capitol Old Business, we have 3 Lobbyist that have sent in their proposals. Nominations for State Board of Directors. New Business Sent to the

State office proposals to host a state meeting in 2015. Leadership seminars will be in June doesn't know where yet. Good of the Order: Leesburg Bike fest, Lake County will have the campground at the Eagles Thurs to Sunday. Meeting was adjourned

#### Dan "Slo Motion" Henderson

Of course the big thing at the April State Meeting was legislative issues. Read my account on page 24 for the full story. I thank Snooze for driving and towing the bikes. Of the four times Smiley has been on trailers for events, this was the easiest besides some "traffic" issues loading my bike in my complex. So I got to do the Ride to the Capital for a second time with Kenny and Debbie. I could not find my ride camera after Daytona to capture it, but Kenny I did find it for the future. There was one problem with the police escorted ride, it was so slow even by my standards! Had to keep Smiley from stalling. And Palm Beach was the LAST two bikes to leave the capital after our trying to hunt down anyone in the offices.







8

VINTAGE CHAPTER
St. AUGUSTINE, FL
PROUD TO HOST





#### STATE MEETING & STATE ELECTION JUNE 14, 2014

ST. AUGUSTINE SHRINE CLUB



STATE BOARD MEETS @ 12 NOON, DELEGATES MEETING @ 2PM



LODGING IS AT QUALITY INN, 2625 SR 207, ELKTON, FL, 32033, PHONE: 904-829-3435 WHEN MAKING RESERVATIONS, TALK TO THE FRONT DESK AND MENTION YOU ARE WITH ABATE TO GET A ROOM FOR \$59.00 PLUS TAX.

#### DIRECTIONS TO MOTEL, FROM NORTH OR SOUTH:

I-95 to Exit 311, State Road 207, If coming from the North turn West and the hotel is on the right hand side. If coming from the South, turn West, go under the interstate and the hotel is on the right hand side. Reservations must be made by JUNE 7, 2014 to get the Discount Rate.



I95 to US 1-Exit 298. Head North on US 1 to 250 Brainard Dr, St. Augustine, FL 32086. Brainard Dr. will be on the right hand side of road. Route will be marked.

CONTACT: John Massoth, Pres. Vintage 904-392-9899 or aintrigt@gmail.com MEMBERSHIP & SAFETY INFORMATION AVAILABLE



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#### Administration proposes abolishing the NHTSA lobby ban in their highway reauthorization bill

On April 29, the U.S. Department of Transportation released the <u>Grow America Act</u>, its proposal for the reauthorization of the nation's surface transportation bill.

The administration proposes allowing the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to lobby in support of mandatory helmet laws. The specific language is the following:

Section 4004. AMENDMENT TO MOTORCYCLIST SAFETY GRANT CRITERIA.

Section 405(f) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting the following after paragraph (5): (6) SUPPORT ACTIVITY.--The Secretary or the Secretary's designee may engage in activities with States and State legislators to consider proposals related to motorcycle helmet use laws."

The language proposed by the administration is the response to the recently approved United Nations' <u>resolution</u> on global road rules. The resolution encourages nations "that have not yet done so to consider enacting comprehensive legislation on key risk factors for road traffic injuries, including the disregard for road signs and signals, the non-use of helmets..."

As the highway bill progresses, the American Motorcyclist Association will continue to watch out for you — the rider.

#### EPA acknowledges ethanol damages engines Proposed new labeling rule would prove ineffective

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has publicly acknowledged that ethanol in gasoline can damage internal combustion engines by increasing exhaust temperatures and indirectly causing component failures.

Yet, even with this knowledge, the Federal Trade Commission is recommending more labeling at the gas pump as its solution to the problem.

The American Motorcyclist Association believes that is not enough.

The Federal Trade Commission issued a <u>rule proposal</u> to provide requirements for rating and certifying ethanol blends and requirements for labeling blends of more than 10 percent ethanol.

But this rule exempts the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's E15-approved label.

This rule is for an additional label to be placed on the fuel pump "in response to the emergence of ethanol blends as a retail fuel and the likely increased availability of such blends."

With this rule, it only means gasoline with higher blends of ethanol will emerge into the marketplace. The AMA believes this proposal will cause even more confusion given the events surrounding the rollout of E15 into the marketplace. The AMA opposes E15 and any fuel containing more than ten percent ethanol because it can cause engine and fuel system failure to your motorcycle or all-terrain vehicle, and can void manufacturers' warranties. According to the EPA, "[e]thanol impacts motor vehicles in two primary ways. First ... ethanol enleans the [air/fuel] ratio (increases the proportion of oxygen relative to hydrocarbons) which can lead to increased exhaust gas temperatures and potentially increase incremental deterioration of emission control hardware and performance over time, possibly causing catalyst failure. Second, ethanol can cause materials compatibility issues, which may lead to other component failures."

"In motorcycles and nonroad products [using E15 and higher ethanol blends], EPA raised engine-failure concerns from overheating."

The FTC is seeking public comments now on the rule proposal that calls for the additional label to identify higher ethanol blended fuels. You can tell the agency how this proposal will cause even more confusion, given the events

surrounding the rollout of E15 into the marketplace.

The AMA does not believe this new label will do what it is intended to do – keep users from misfueling with higher ethanol blended fuels. It simply does not provide clear direction. Another label on a blender pump that already has many labels will not be sufficient to avoid misfueling and could be easily overlooked.

The proposed rule provides no direction on where on the pump the label should be located. Moreover, the FTC is proposing that the label be rounded to the nearest factor of 10. How will this accurately inform the consumer of the type of fuel called for by the vehicle owner's manual? Will a fuel containing 11 percent to 14 percent ethanol be labeled as 10 percent ethanol? Is the FTC aware that manufacturers' warranties are valid only for the use of fuel containing 10 percent ethanol by volume or less?

Help protect 22 million motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles in America -- and the riders who depend on their safe operation -- from inadvertent misfueling. Tell the FTC you want safe access to fuel for motorcycles and ATVs!

The loser in any inadvertent misfueling event is the motorcyclist and ATV rider. The AMA stands behind its members, and all riders, in calling for more thorough safeguards against misfueling.

The deadline for comments is **Jun. 2**! Act today to ensure your voice is heard. For the latest information on the AMA's efforts to protect your access to safe fuel, go to <a href="http://www.americanmotorcyclist.com/rights/amafuelforthought.aspx">http://www.americanmotorcyclist.com/rights/amafuelforthought.aspx</a>.

**Washington, D.C.:** A bipartisan bill introduced by U.S. Sens. Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.), Ron Johnson (R-Wis.), Kelly Ayotte (R-N.H.) and Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.) would prohibit the use of federal funds in establishing motorcycle-only checkpoints. This is a bill similar to H.R. 1861, introduced in in the U.S. House of Representatives by U.S. Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner (R-Wis.).

Specifically, the "Stop Motorcycle Checkpoint Funding Act" would restrict the Secretary of Transportation from granting funds to any government entity for a program to check helmet use or to create checkpoints for an operator of a motorcycle or a motorcycle passenger.

The AMA fully supports the bill.

The AMA has tracked motorcycle-only checkpoints since they were first enacted in New York. The state of Georgia used funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in March 2011 to conduct motorcycle-only checkpoints as thousands of motorcyclists rode through the state on their way to Daytona Beach, Fla., for Bike Week.

Another motorcycle-only checkpoint was conducted in northern Virginia during one of the nation's most visible motorcycle rallies -- Rolling Thunder -- over the 2011 Memorial Day weekend.

Motorcycle-only checkpoints also were conducted in Utah when thousands of riders attended a world-class road-racing event.

California, Missouri, North Carolina, Illinois, New Hampshire and Virginia have passed legislation curbing MOCs. Eleven states -- Alaska, Idaho, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming -- have prohibited checkpoints by statute and/or judicial action.

If passed, this bill would ensure that riders across the country are safeguarded from ineffective and prejudicial MOCs funded by the federal government. For more information on the efforts by the AMA to fight motorcycle-only checkpoints, go to http://americanmotorcyclist.com/rights/motorcycleonlycheckpoints.aspx.

**Washington, D.C.:** New regulations unveiled March 3 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency include two key provisions that help protect motorcyclists and all-terrain vehicle owners from damaging their engines and possibly voiding manufacturers' warranties. The EPA adopted E10 -- a fuel containing up to 10 percent ethanol by volume -- as its standard test fuel, beginning in 2017. The pro-ethanol industry had pressed for adoption of E15 as the standard test fuel. The AMA submitted comments to the EPA to oppose the E15 standard in June 2013.

Also, the agency refused to grant a waiver for E15 for its vapor pressure limit for fuels. The vapor pressure limit is intended to reduce the amount of fuel vapors escaping into the air during refueling. During the warmer months, the pressure inside underground fuel storage tanks increases, resulting in more vapors being forced out when the refueling nozzle is open. This decision means that E15 fuels will be available in fewer locales during the warmer months, reducing the likelihood that motorcyclists and ATV riders could inadvertently fill their tanks with

it.

The EPA has approved E15 for use in 2001and-newer cars, light-duty trucks and medium-duty passenger vehicles. But the fuel is not approved for use in motorcycles or ATVs. And manufacturers have warned that use of E15 in unapproved vehicles may void the warranties.

Blender pumps dispensing E15 at service stations create a high potential for inadvertent E15 misfueling by consumers. For more information about the E15 issue, go to http://www.americanmotorcyclist.com/rights/ amafuelforthought.aspx.

Washington, D.C.: The Roadway Safety Foundation announced that the 2014 Roadway Safety Guide: A Primer for Community Leaders is available on-line at www.roadwaysafety.org. The guide is a hands-on, user-friendly document designed to provide community leaders and elected officials with basic information to improve roadway safety in their communities. Originally published by the RSF in 2000, this updated version includes information on new technologies and engineering treatments, such as modern roundabouts and median barriers that have been revised with years of safety research and data now supporting their use.

The guide includes checklists for identifying roadway trouble spots, information on building successful coalitions and tips for getting concerns prioritized by the people who can address them. Written for non-engineers, it draws people from all backgrounds into the roadway safety conversation. For additional information on RSF, please visit www.roadwaysafety.org, on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/roadwaysafetyfoundation; and follow on Twitter at @roadway safety.

#### Harley-Davidson recalling 9,100 motorcycles for fuel level sensor fix

Publish Date: Apr 29, 2014 http://preview.tinyurl.com/19jd7r2

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Harley-Davidson is recalling about 9,100 2013-14 FXSB and FXSBSE models manufactured from March 20, 2012, through March 10, 2014, to identify and fix a problem with the fuel level sensor signal, NHTSA announced.

Email from Miami Mike Wheels on the Road



Blind Judging By: Chef Har Laman - Executive Chef of the Riverhouse Chef Helmut Karner - Executive Chef at a Private Palm Beach Club Chef Patrick Fagen - Executive Chef Pine Tree Golf Club Chef Tony - Private Chef PB Colette Martin - Honorary Chef - Propane Administrative for FL Utilities



Palm Beach Chapter **NEW Club Members** \$10 Special **One Year One Person** Mail in NOW with the application in this newletter

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



#### RICK SCOTT GOVERNOR

#### MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, Florida's mild climate and scenic roadways make motorcycle riding an enjoyable experience throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, Florida's growing population makes motorcycle safety an important issue for all drivers; and

WHEREAS, May 2014 is being commemorated as Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, the motorcycle is an important form of transportation for commuting, touring, and recreation; and

WHEREAS, more than a million drivers in Florida have a motorcycle endorsement on their driver license; and

WHEREAS, motorcycles can easily be hidden in traffic; therefore, it is important for motorists to search the traffic around them and always expect to see motorcycles; and

WHEREAS, to prevent injuries and deaths on Florida's roadways, motorcyclists and motorists must be vigilant in their efforts to share the road and ensure the safety of everyone;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing May 2014 as *Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month* and encourage all motorists to Share the Road with motorcycles.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, in the year two thousand fourteen.

Governor

# 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







#### **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 BIKETOBERFEST

16th-19th DAYTONA BIKETOBERFEST 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



# Treasure Coast Presidents Council 2014 Calendar of Events

#### **MAY**

3 Booze Fighters MC party 10 Leathernecks MC annual 17 Wings of Gold MC party 18 Rough Riders MC annual

#### <u>JUNE</u>

1 AOA TC party 29 Alternatives MC annual JULY

6 AOA WPB annual
12 Wheels of Man MC annual
27 Soldiers for Jesus MC annual
AUGUST

4-10 Sturgis bike week 8-10 S. Florida Tattoo Convention 17 Wings of Gold MC annual 23 Booze Fighters MC annual

#### **SEPTEMBER**

13 Alternatives MC off annual19-21 Key West Poker Run27 FLNY MC party28 Fiasco Brothers MC off annual

#### **OCTOBER**

5 Rough Riders MC annual 16-19 Daytona Biketoberfest

#### **NOVEMBER**

2 AOA TC annual 30 USMV MC TOY RUN

#### **DECEMBER**

7 SFPC TOY RUN
20 SFLCOC Christmas party
21 Calvary Chapel Christmas
Service



# United Bikers Council of Palm Beach Co. Events

#### **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 of FL Inc. PALM BEACH CHAPTER MEETINGS

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

# May 2014 Tue Wed Thu

Fri Sun Mon Sat

Open House Every Thursday  1170 Highview - Lantana, FL  8:00 pm till Midnight  Join us for Food. Music. Beverages and Brotherhood No Guns, No Drugs, No Attitudes, No Chumliss			1 Renegades Bike Night Black Pistons MC Open House Dinner States	2 AOA WPB Open House Soldiers for Jesus MC Open House	3 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House	
4 Southern MC Annual	5 Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet&T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House	6 Lone Legion MC Open House	7 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	Black Pistons MC Open House Dinner States MC Pompano NCOM Convention	9 AOA WPB MC Open House Pizza States MC Pompano NCOM Convention Brooksville Old School Biker Rodeo	10 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House NCOM Convention Brooksville Old School Biker Rodeo
11 NCOM Convention Brooksville Old School Biker Rodeo	12 Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet&T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House	13 Lone Legion MC Open House	14 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	Hack Pistons MC Open House Dinner States MC Pompano Palm Beach Harley Bike Night	16 AOA WPB MC Open House Pizza States Pompano Riding Into History Bike Show	17 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House USMVMC Annual Riding Into History Bike Show
18 ABATE Palm Beach Chapter Meeting Rock n Roll Sunday	19 Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet&T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House	20 Lone Legion MC Open House	21 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	22 Black Pistons MC Open House Dinner States MC Pompano Cycle Gear PB Bike Night	23 AOA WPB MC Open House Pizza States Pompano TattooMania	24 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House TattooMania
25 ABATE SE Memorial Day Event TattooMania	26 Memorial Day Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet&T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House	27 Lone Legion MC Open House	28 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	29 Turboz/Ralphs Bike Night Black Pistons Open House	30 AOA WPB MC Open House Pizza States Pompano	31 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House

# June 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet&T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House	3 Lone Legion MC Open House	4 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	5 Renegades Bike Night Black Pistons MC Open House Dinner States MC Pompano	AOA WPB Open House Soldiers for Jesus MC Open House Pizza States MC Pompano	7 Fly-In Wheels MC PB Open House
8 New Attitudes MC Party	9 Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet&T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open	10 Lone Legion MC Open House	11 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	12 Black Pistons MC Open House Dinner States MC Pompano	13 AOA WPB MC Open House Pizza States MC Pompano	14 Fly-In Wheels MC PB Open House ABATE State Meeting
15	16 Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet&T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House Ride to Work	17 Lone Legion MC Open House	18 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	Palm Beach Harley Bike Night Black Pistons MC Open House Dinner States MC Pompano	20 AOA WPB MC Open House Pizza States MC Pompano	21 Fly-In Wheels MC PB Open House
22 ABATE Palm Beach Chapter Meeting Wings of Gold Lauderdale Annual	23 Turn 3 Jam Night with Stet&T3JB Mob of Brothers MC Open House	24 Lone Legion MC Open House	25 Island Jack's Bike Night States LW MC Open House	26 Black Pistons Open House Dinner States MC Pompano Turboz/Ralphs Bike Night Cycle Gear PB Bike Night	27 AOA WPB MC Open House Pizza States MC Pompano	28 ABATE Palm Beach Event Fly-In Wheels MC PB Open House
29 S. Broward USMVMC An- nual	30 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.				











#### ARMED FORCES WEEK

SUPPORTED BY: AMET roject

invite you to join them in helping raise awareness for Motorcylce Safety and Our Military Warriors in the



### Sunday MAY 18, 2014

**PRIZES** 

HIGH &

DNAH WO.

• Saints MC Club House • Cocoa FL 32926 • First 10a - Last 11:30a Breakfast @ 9am. Donations accepted

· Arrival @ Doc's Bait House · Merritt Island Last Bike in @ 3:30p • Awards @ 4p

EVENT ENDS @ 4:30p

#### ENTERTAINMENT • FOOD • BEVERAGES

available at the end

safety and membership booth

# \$1000 per person you get a T-shirt

\$500 goes to AVET Project



& \$500 goes to motorcycle safety awareness

For info email Mike @ mickeyjojo@earthlink.net or Garren @ gscone@avetproject.org Donations to ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. are not deductible for federal income tax purposes ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. does not condone drinking and driving.



"Proceeds to benefit Nam Knight MC Charities'







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# PALM BEACH

#### **Senators**

Dist. 25
Joseph Abruzzo

Dist. 27

Jeff Clemens

Dist. 32
Joe Negron

Dist. 34
Maria Sachs

#### Representatives

District 81 Kevin Rader

<u>District 82</u> <u>MaryLynn Magar</u>

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 the Legislators taking the whole week off of for Holidays, the Tallahassee Rally and Ride to the Capital was not as well attended as in past. But the Capital was not a total wasteland. The Keys and Monroe County Representative was there and joined us on the Capital steps. We made it a point to thank every assistant and secretary we saw working. From Palm Beach we saw three of the 11 offices occupied. District 27 Senator Clemens' Legislative Assistant Evelyn DuPlecy remembered me from our summer meeting. Representative Ber-



man District 90 had someone working the desk. I have had positive meetings with both of these in past. In was really good to meet Tradick McCoy assistant to District 88 Bobby Powell. Powell was on the Transportation & Highway Safety Subcommittee and one I've been wanting to talk with. While we mentioned the Motorcycle Safely Funds to everyone, with Mr. McCoy we discussed some of the other bills and how not many never got heard. On some of the accident bills he had good points as he had been in on caused by another. He told us we wanted to take the motorcycle endorsement course. Since he represents Riviera Beach, we invited him to our meetings so perhaps he will. He will help me to meet with Powell and was a great help to us as I had old office information. So he got the updates for us and even provided us with water. This kind of interaction is want we came to Tallahassee for

Speaking of the Tallahassee Rally and Ride to the Capital, the State Board brought up the possibility of changed the date. In April it is late in the session so moving it earlier would provide more opportunity to get our messages involved in decision making. So the April State meeting could become a regular movable meeting hosted by chapters. The Rally and Ride could become a separate event perhaps in late February or March (before or after Bikeweek?). The delegates were asked to get some ideas from chapter how they feel might work best and get a better turnout and result. Since the event has to planned a year in advance, we can do two dates, regular April and something earlier if we can figure when.

So the sessions are about over. Our Safety funding is still in the budget. We need to urge them to keep it in this year, politely remind them that it is money PAID by motorcyclists in bike registrations for the PURPOSE of promoting motorcycle awareness and safety. We have done a great job doing this and in the two years our funds were cut, the accident and death rates have increased, we could have helped. Again the Transportation committees heard very few bills. While our We need to get on them next year as soon as the committees are formed to get working and do what they were elected to do!

Now for the Tally News as provided by Darrin "Scribe" Brooks ABATE of FL, Inc.

Wed 4-30

#### HOUSE GIVES GREEN LIGHT TO HIGHER SPEED LIMITS

After a sometimes-emotional debate, a divided Florida House on Wednesday gave final approval to a proposal that could lead to 75 mph speed limits on some highways. The House voted 58-56 to pass the bill (SB 392), which was backed by the Senate last week. It now goes to Gov. Rick Scott. Opponents said increasing speed limits would lead to more deadly crashes, with Rep. Irv Slosberg, D-Boca Raton, telling the House that speed played a role in

an accident that killed one of his daughters. You just never want to get that call," Slosberg said. "A lot of us have kids and grandkids and you never want to get that call, your daughter died in a car crash." The bill would allow maximum speed limits of 75 mph on limited-access highways, up from the current 70 mph. It also would allow speed limits of 70 mph on other four-lane, divided highways outside urban areas, up from the current 65 mph. But the measure's supporters said the ultimate decisions about whether to raise speed limits would be left up to the Florida Department of Transportation. The agency would decide the safest speeds for highways, they said.

#### LAWMAKERS FACE A LONG FRIDAY AFTER BUDGET IS RELEASED

It could be a late night Friday for the Legislature. A compromise budget was emailed to lawmakers at 8:35 p.m. Tuesday, meaning the Legislature will be in session until at least the same time Friday evening. The Florida Constitution requires a 72-hour waiting period from the time lawmakers are given the budget until a final vote can be taken. The final document, which will take effect July 1, weighs in at \$77.1 billion. That's larger than the proposed House or Senate budgets and the largest in state history in raw dollars. Additional funding in Medicaid, springing from local tax dollars used to draw down federal money, and an increase in the state's transportation work plan accounted for most of the differences between the earlier budgets and the final version.

#### CONGRESSIONAL RACES WILL HAVE FAMILIAR FACES

With qualifying this week for Florida's fall congressional elections, 23 incumbent U.S. House members have already filed the required paperwork to run for another term, according to the state Division of Elections website. In all, 53 candidates qualified Monday and Tuesday in the state's 27 congressional districts. Qualifying will end at noon Friday. The incumbents listed as qualified Tuesday night on the state website were Republicans Jeff Miller, Steve Southerland, Ted Yoho, Ron DeSantis, John Mica, Bill Posey, Rich Nugent, Gus Bilirakis, David Jolly, Dennis Ross, Vern Buchanan, Tom Rooney, Mario Diaz-Balart and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, along with Democrats Corrine Brown, Alan Grayson, Kathy Castor, Patrick Murphy, Alcee Hastings, Ted Deutch, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Frederica Wilson and Joe Garcia.

#### NEXT GOVERNOR COULD RESHAPE SUPREME COURT

Florida's GOP-dominated House approved a proposed constitutional amendment Wednesday that could give the winner of November's gubernatorial election the power to reshape the state Supreme Court. House Republicans sent the measure to the November ballot in a 74-45, party-line vote, after Democrats objected to both the process and the politics behind a proposal that would allow an outgoing governor to replace appellate or Supreme Court justices whose terms expire on the governor's last day in office. The proposal will be the only constitutional question placed on the November ballot by the Legislature. Voters will also face ballot initiatives dealing with legalization of medical marijuana and the state's land-buying program. All constitutional changes require 60 percent approval from voters to pass. Democrats argued that the proposal, approved by the Senate in a partisan vote earlier this month, is intended to give incumbent Gov. Rick Scott, who is seeking re-election, the ability to stack the Florida Supreme Court. The proposal would let the winner of the November election --- Scott, or potentially, Democratic candidate Charlie Crist -- appoint replacements for three Supreme Court justices who have to retire on the same day the governor's term ends in 2019. Justices have to retire at age 70 but can serve the remainder of their six-year terms.

#### SENATE APPROVES PROHIBITION ON FOREIGN LAW IN COURT

Foreign laws would be prohibited in Florida courts, under a bill the Senate sent to the House on Monday. The Senate voted 24-14 to approve the proposal (SB 386) by Umatilla Republican Alan Hays, who has pushed various versions of the measure the past couple of years. The current bill codifies existing law, declaring that any attempt to apply the law of a foreign country is void if it breaches the policy of Florida. The proposal is more defined than last year's effort, which got House support but failed to advance in the Senate. The House companion (HB 903) has reached the floor but has yet to be scheduled as lawmakers are in the final week of the regular session. Hays said the bill will do nothing to impede international trade, a prior concern of business groups, and won't cast a negative message upon anyone from another country. "For those people who want to come to America we welcome them, but when you come to America you're going to be governed on American laws and when you come to Florida you're going to be governed on Florida laws," Hays said. "We dare not apologize for that, folks. This is a very good bill. It's an all American bill."

#### SENATE PASSES MEDICAL MARIJUANA PLAN MINUS SCOTT WISH LIST

As an 11-year-old Panhandle girl who helped change the minds of leery lawmakers looked on, the Senate overwhelmingly approved a proposal Monday legalizing a strain on marijuana that could stop life-threatening seizures in children with a rare form of epilepsy. After the 36-3 vote, RayAnn Moseley, accompanied by her mother Holley, awarded the three Senate sponsors of the measure (SB 1030) hand-drawn pictures of a bright yellow sun against a blue background overarched by the words "Ray of Hope." RayAnn, who suffers from a rare form of epilepsy as well as cerebral palsy, has become the Florida "poster child" for a strain of marijuana that is high in cannabidiol (CBD) and low in euphoria-inducing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). Parents whose children have taken the drug, which is not approved by the Food and Drug Administration, say it dramatically reduces seizures that can be fatal. Supporters of the effort estimate the strain of marijuana, known as "Charlotte's Web," could help about 150,000 Florida children like RayAnn who suffer up to hundreds of seizures per day.

#### HOUSE LOOKS TO GUNS TO PROTECT SCHOOLS

In a debate that showed sharp divisions about how best to protect children and teachers, the Florida House on Monday approved a bill that could lead to some public-school employees or volunteers carrying guns on campus. House members voted 71-44 to approve the bill (HB 753), which would allow school districts to decide whether to designate people who could carry concealed weapons on schools grounds. Those people would have to be trained and have military or law-enforcement backgrounds. Rep. Dennis Baxley, an Ocala Republican who has long backed such proposals, said gun-free schools have become a "sterile target" that can be attacked by deranged people. The debate Monday included references to mass shootings at places such as a Newton, Conn., elementary school and at Fort Hood in Texas. "Gun free zones are the most dangerous places in America," said Rep. Neil Combee, a Polk City Republican and supporter of the bill. "We all know that. Whether it's Fort Hood or the school shootings, most of the mass killings these days occur in these gun free zones."

#### FLOOD INSURANCE BILL GETS HOUSE OK

After homeowners received a major scare about rate increases, the Florida House on Monday approved a bill aimed at drawing more private insurers to write flood-insurance coverage in the state. House members voted 98-11 to approve the bill (SB 542). The Senate approved the bill earlier, but the measure will have to return to the Senate because of changes made in the House. Lawmakers began looking for ways to expand private coverage after it appeared that tens of thousands of Florida homeowners could get hit with massive increases under the National Flood Insurance Program. While Congress has alleviated those concerns, state lawmakers have continued working on the issue. House sponsor Ed Hooper, R-Clearwater, questioned whether the federal government and Congress would take care of flood insurance needs and said the bill "gets the government off our back." Added Rep. Dwight Dudley, D-St. Petersburg: "We need this bill. It doesn't solve everything. It doesn't fix the entire problem. But it's a good step in the right direction." But Rep. Kevin Rader, a Delray Beach Democrat and insurance agent, said people should buy coverage backed by the federal government. "We don't need this bill to move forward," Rader said. The bill, as revised by the House, would set guidelines for flood-insurance policies, including coverage requirements and how flood losses would be adjusted.

#### **ADVANCES: WEEK OF APRIL 27, 2014**

THE CAPITAL, TALLAHASSEE, APRIL 25, 2014.....The end is near. At least in the legislative world. Florida law-makers will finish the 2014 session Friday. But before that happens, the House and Senate will have to finalize a 2014-15 budget and grapple with dozens of bills.

#### **MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2014**

Legislature:

- --- **SENATE DEMOCRATS MEET**: The Senate Democratic caucus will hold a meeting. (Monday, 9 a.m., 200 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.)
- --- SENATE TO TAKE UP MEDICAL MARIJUANA, TRAUMA CARE: The Senate will take up numerous issues, including a proposal (SB 1030), sponsored by Sen. Rob Bradley, R-Fleming Island, Sen. Aaron Bean, R-Fernandina Beach, and Sen. Jeff Brandes, R-St. Petersburg, that would help make available a strain of marijuana that

supporters say can aid children with a type of epilepsy that causes severe seizures. Among other issues, the Senate will consider a bill (SB 1276), sponsored by Sen. Denise Grimsley, R-Sebring, that would ensure the continued operation of disputed trauma centers at hospitals in Manatee, Pasco and Marion counties. (Monday, 10 a.m., Senate chamber, the Capitol.)

--- HOUSE CONSIDERS FLOOD INSURANCE, TEXTBOOKS: The House could vote on a proposal (SB 542) that supporters hope will help expand a private flood-insurance market in Florida. The issue became high-profile in recent months when it appeared that thousands of Floridians could get hit with massive rate increases in the National Flood Insurance Program. Also, the House is expected to begin considering bills (SB 864 and HB 921) that could shift more authority for textbooks and other instructional materials from the state to local school boards. (Monday, 10 a.m., House chamber, the Capitol.)

#### Also:

**TRAUMA HEARING TO START**: Administrative Law Judge R. Bruce McKibben is expected to start hearing arguments in a challenge filed by several major hospitals against the Florida Department of Health about a proposed rule for trauma-center approvals. UF Health Shands Hospital in Gainesville, Tampa General Hospital, The Public Health Trust of Miami-Dade County, Bayfront Medical Center in St. Petersburg, St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa and Memorial Regional Hospital in Broward County filed petitions last month seeking to block a proposed trauma-care rule. Some of those hospitals have been locked in a long-running dispute with the department about trauma centers allowed to open at hospitals affiliated with the HCA health-care chain. (Monday, 9 a.m., DeSoto Building, 1230 Apalachee Parkway, Tallahassee.)

**VIRTUAL SCHOOLS FIGHT IN SUPREME COURT**: The Florida Supreme Court will hear arguments in four cases, including a case in which the Florida Virtual School has accused K12, Inc., of trademark infringement. (Monday, 9 a.m., Florida Supreme Court, 500 South Duval St., Tallahassee.)

**UBER PROPOSAL GETS SUPPORT**: Sen. Jeff Brandes, R-St. Petersburg, and Rep. James Grant, R-Tampa, are expected to take part in a news conference calling for passage of legislation that could help Uber Technologies operate in the state. Uber, a smart phone app that links riders with cars, objects to local limo regulations that it says are outdated. (Monday, 9:30 a.m., Capitol courtyard.)

**COALITION FOR CHILDREN ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP**: The Florida Coalition for Children will hold an event to announce a partnership with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. (Monday, 11 a.m., Old Capitol steps.)

**QUALIFYING STARTS IN CONGRESSIONAL, LEGAL RACES:** Qualifying for this year's congressional, state attorney, public defender, circuit judge and appeals court elections will begin. The qualifying period ends May 2.

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2014

Legislature:

- --- **SENATE DEMOCRATS MEET**: The Senate Democratic caucus will hold a meeting. (Tuesday, 9 a.m., 200 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.)
- --- **HOUSE IN SESSION**: The House will hold a floor session for much of the day. (Tuesday, 9 a.m., House chamber, the Capitol.)
- --- SENATE TO DISCUSS STADIUM FUNDING: The Senate is expected to take up a bill (SB 1216), sponsored by Sen. Jack Latvala, R-Clearwater, that would set up a new process that the state would use in determining whether to help pay for sports stadium projects. Among other issues, the Senate could consider a bill (SB 662), sponsored by Sen. Aaron Bean, R-Fernandina Beach, that would increase oversight of out-of-state "compounding" pharmacies --- a proposal that supporters say could help prevent a repeat of a deadly 2012 outbreak of fungal meningitis that stemmed from problems at a Massachusetts pharmacy. (Tuesday, 10 a.m., Senate chamber, the Capitol.)

#### Also:

**KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE BACKED**: Rep. Jose Felix Diaz, R-Miami, and Rep. Mike Hill, R-Pensacola, are expected to be among the speakers during a news conference urging the White House to approve the Keystone XL pipeline. (Tuesday, 8:30 a.m., fourth floor, outside the House chamber, the Capitol.)

**PALM BEACH JUDGE TO BE REPRIMANDED**: The Florida Supreme Court will consider three cases, including issuing a public reprimand to Palm Beach County Judge Barry Cohen about comments he made involving cases and an election. (Tuesday, 9 a.m., 500 South Duval St., Tallahassee.)

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2014

Legislature:

- --- **SENATE DEMOCRATS MEET**: The Senate Democratic caucus will hold a meeting. (Wednesday, 9 a.m., 200 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.)
- --- **HOUSE IN SESSION**: The House will hold a floor session for much of the day. (Wednesday, 9 a.m., House chamber, the Capitol.)
- --- SENATE TAKES UP PENSION OVERHAUL, GUNS IN EMERGENCIES: The Senate will take up numerous bills, including a proposal (SB 1114), sponsored by Sen. Wilton Simpson, R-Trilby, that would make changes to the Florida Retirement System. House Speaker Will Weatherford, R-Wesley Chapel, has made a priority of revamping the system to move employees away from traditional pensions and into 401(k)-style investment plans. Also, the Senate is expected to consider a bill (SB 296), sponsored by Sen. Jeff Brandes, R-St. Petersburg, that would address the carrying of concealed weapons during states of emergency. Under the bill, people who can lawfully own firearms would be able to carry them during emergencies, regardless of whether they have concealed-weapon licenses. (Wednesday, 10 a.m., Senate chamber, the Capitol.)

#### Also:

SUPREME COURT TO HEAR ONLINE TRAVEL CASE: The Florida Supreme Court will hear arguments in four cases, including a long-running tax battle between counties and the online-travel industry. Attorneys for 17 counties are asking the Supreme Court to overturn a 1st District Court of Appeal ruling in favor of online-travel companies such as Expedia and Orbitz. The dispute centers on whether the online-travel companies should pay tourist -development taxes on the full amounts they collect from customers, or only on the portions that go to room rentals. The companies contend the portions that do not pay for room rentals are service charges, which are not subject to the hotel bed tax. The 17 counties involved in the case are Alachua, Charlotte, Escambia, Flagler, Hillsborough, Lee, Leon, Manatee, Nassau, Okaloosa, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, St. Johns, Seminole, Wakulla and Walton. Also, the Supreme Court will allow attorneys for Broward, Osceola and Volusia counties and the Volusia County School Board to make brief arguments. Those government bodies have been involved in other litigation with the online-travel companies about the tax issue. (Wednesday, 9 a.m., Florida Supreme Court, 500 South Duval St., Tallahassee.)

PAROLE COMMISSION TO MEET: The Florida Parole Commission will consider numerous cases involving crimes committed in the 1970s and 1980s. (Wednesday, 9 a.m., 4070 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee.)

BOARD OF MEDICINE TO DISCUSS TELEMEDICINE: The Florida Board of Medicine will hold a conference

call to discuss standards for telemedicine practice. (Wednesday, noon. Call-in number: <u>1-888-670-3525</u>. Code: 125-528-7056.)

**RICH TO SPEAK AT FAU**: Democratic gubernatorial candidate Nan Rich will speak at a graduation ceremony for Florida Atlantic University graduate students. (Wednesday, 6 p.m., FAU University Theater, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton.)

#### THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2014

Legislature:

- --- **SENATE DEMOCRATS MEET**: The Senate Democratic caucus will hold a meeting. (Thursday, 9 a.m., 200 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.)
- --- **HOUSE IN SESSION**: The House will hold a floor session for much of the day. (Thursday, 9 a.m., House chamber, the Capitol.)
- --- **SENATE IN SESSION**: The Senate will hold a floor session for much of the day. (Thursday, 10 a.m., Senate chamber, the Capitol.)

Also:

SUPREME COURT TO RELEASE OPINIONS: The Florida Supreme Court is expected to release its weekly

opinions. (Thursday, 11 a.m.)

**RICH TO SPEAK TO UM STUDENTS**: Democratic gubernatorial candidate Nan Rich is expected to speak to University of Miami students and faculty. (Thursday, 7 p.m., 6850 S.W. 119th St., Miami.)

MEDICAID MANAGED CARE TAKES EFFECT: The state Agency for Health Care Administration will move forward with a plan to enroll most Medicaid beneficiaries in managed-care plans. AHCA has already enrolled seniors who need long-term care. But beginning May 1, it also will start gradually enrolling the broader Medicaid population. The first phase will affect beneficiaries in counties across North Florida and parts of Central Florida. Those counties are Bay, Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Taylor, Wakulla, Washington, Alachua, Bradford, Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Lafayette, Lake, Levy, Marion, Putnam, Sumter, Suwannee, Union, Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, St. Johns and Volusia.

#### **FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2014**

Legislature:

- --- **FINAL DAY OF THE 2014 SESSION**: The Legislature is scheduled to finish the 60-day annual session.
- --- **SENATE DEMOCRATS MEET**: The Senate Democratic caucus will hold a meeting. (Friday, 9 a.m., 200 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.)
- --- **HOUSE IN SESSION**: The House will hold a floor session for much of the day. (Friday, 10 a.m., House chamber, the Capitol.)
- --- **SENATE IN SESSION**: The Senate will hold a floor session for much of the day. (Friday, 10 a.m., Senate chamber, the Capitol.)

#### WEEKLY ROUNDUP: SCOTT, SEERSUCKER AND SHADOWS

(Recap and analysis of the week in state government)

By DARA KAM AND BRANDON LARRABEE THE NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

THE CAPITAL, TALLAHASSEE, April 25, 2014......The Capitol crowd blended a flair for fashion into the mix of the session's penultimate week, creating a bright and cheery impression as more sober discussions about pot, immigration and state finances intensified.

Lawmakers drew and erased lines in the sand about the two chambers' spending plans and a variety of other issues, handing off the thorniest subjects to the budget chiefs, Rep. Seth McKeel and Sen. Joe Negron.

And, as the session clock seemed to wind down more rapidly, Gov. Rick Scott waded into the fray on two high -profile issues --- medical marijuana and in-state tuition for undocumented immigrants.

Legislators, lobbyists and staffers wound up a week of sartorial sidetracks with a nod to Southern elegance on Friday in the guise of "Seersucker Day," an annual celebration of the puckered cotton cloth evocative of Tennessee Williams that felt --- and looked --- oh-so-comfy as the humidity began to climb. Two days earlier, the Capitol burst into bloom as those with the most refined tastes paid homage to the late Palm Beach fashionista, Lilly Pulitzer, in pastel shades of green and pink. Sandwiched in between on Thursday, the more rebel-minded slipped on ostrich, alligator or plain old cowhide to kick some boot on yet another tailor-made legislative "day."

#### SCOTT STEPS OUT FROM THE SHADOWS

Scott's support for in-state tuition rates for students who don't have authorization to be in the country is a major turnaround from the Republican who promised to bring an Arizona-style immigration law to Florida in his first bid for governor.

The proposal, a top priority of House Speaker Will Weatherford, is stuck in the Senate, where Negron, the appropriations chairman, refused to slate it for a committee hearing this week. Early in the session, Democrats joined moderate and Weatherford-faithful House Republicans to pass the measure, a higher-ed hodgepodge that also would scale back from 15 to 6 percent the annual amount universities can hike tuition without the Legislature's approval.

Scott had been mum until recently on the part of the bill that would allow undocumented immigrant students to pay in-state tuition rates as long as they attend four years of secondary school in the state. Instead, the governor had focused on lowering tuition for all students, something he has pushed by asking colleges to provide four-year degrees for \$10,000 and by telling universities to forego tuition increases.

But on Tuesday, Scott's office arranged a hastily called press conference after a move to get the issue onto the

floor stalled in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

"For Florida's students, it's extremely disappointing," Scott told reporters outside his office. "We have 21 Senate sponsors, we have four other senators that have voted for this in committee assignments --- this needs to get to the floor of the Senate."

Children brought to this country by their parents deserve "the same opportunities of all children," Scott said. "Whatever country you were born in --- whatever family or ZIP code --- you ought to have the chance to live the dream."

Senate bill sponsor Jack Latvala, R-Clearwater, has insisted he has enough votes to pass the measure --- half the members of the Senate have formally signed on as co-sponsors --- if he could get it to the floor. Late in the week, Latvala said he believes the bill will come up for a vote during the last week of session.

A separate immigration-related issue popped up in the Senate, telegraphing the popularity of Latvala's proposal in the chamber.

With a 25-12 vote Friday, the Senate passed a measure (HB 755) that would allow certain undocumented immigrants to gain admission to The Florida Bar. The vote count likely mirrors a Senate floor vote on the in-state tuition proposal.

The bill is aimed at helping Jose Godinez-Samperio, who came to the United States at age 9 from Mexico, graduated from law school at Florida State University and passed the Bar exam more than two years ago.

Last month, the Supreme Court unanimously ruled that undocumented immigrants like Godinez-Samperio cannot be admitted to The Florida Bar and called on the Legislature to change state law to allow so-called "Dreamers" to become attorneys.

The bill approved Friday would give the Supreme Court the ability to admit Bar applicants who were brought to the state as minors and have been residents of Florida for more than 10 years.

Weatherford said late Thursday he supports the measure and that "there is plenty of time left" for the issue to be resolved and sent to Scott, who did not directly answer when asked whether he backs the bill.

"This case demonstrates how broken our federal immigration laws are. Stories like this are why I am fighting to keep tuition low for every Florida student who wants to follow their dreams right here in our state," Scott said in a statement.

#### SCOTT COMES OUT OF THE SHADOWS, SORT OF

The governor this week also staked out a position on a hybrid of marijuana known as "Charlotte's Web" that many believe can dramatically reduce life-threatening seizures in children with a rare form of epilepsy.

Parents of the children, some in wheelchairs, have repeatedly made tearful pleas during committee hearings and in private meetings with lawmakers while recounting the drama of the form of the disease that does not respond to other treatments and can cause hundreds of seizures per day.

The issue has become one of the hottest topics of the 2014 session. Many at-first reluctant GOP lawmakers have rallied around the substance after hearing emotionally charged testimony from parents whose children suffer hundreds of seizures per month. But other Republicans are concerned that the proposals en route to the chamber floors could wrongly give the public the idea that the lawmakers support a constitutional amendment on the November ballot that would allow doctors to order "traditional" marijuana for severely ill patients.

The House and Senate have been working toward common ground on making available a form of marijuana that is high in cannabidiol (CBD) and low in euphoria-inducing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

On Monday, the House Judiciary Committee approved a plan that includes language proposed by Scott, who wants to limit the use of the drug to clinical trials.

The bill (HB 843) would create an "Office of Compassionate Use" within the Department of Health that would "enhance access to investigational new drugs for Florida patients through approved clinical treatment plans or studies." Studies on "investigational new drugs" are the first step in the Food and Drug Administration approval process. Under Scott's plan, the "Office of Compassionate Use" could create a network of state universities and medical centers and apply to the FDA or a drug manufacturer for a study. The House measure also includes \$1 million for the clinical studies.

"As a father and a grandfather, I cannot imagine what it would be like to have a family member suffering. We want to make sure those suffering get access to treatments in the fastest possible way. And that is why we have

proposed language to ensure the safety of our children and have been working with the Legislature to see it included in the final bill," Scott said in an e-mail Tuesday.

The House sponsor balked at the restrictions proposed by Scott. Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Fort Walton Beach, wanted a more free-market approach but bowed to the Senate's preference for a "vertical" distribution system where growers would also serve as manufacturers and distributors. The two chambers still haven't ironed out all the kinks, however.

"The governor's suggestions are good. We've taken those suggestions but we're thinking a little bolder," Gaetz, R-Fort Walton Beach, said Monday evening. "I would like to do that and have little kids who can't get into a clinical trial still have their lives saved."

The Senate is slated to take up its approach to medical marijuana (SB 1030) on Monday.

#### TAG --- YOU'RE IT!

With the budget conference process compressed into little more than a week this year, a furious series of sub-committee meetings took place between Monday evening and Wednesday evening, when all unresolved issues were bumped to McKeel and Negron. Lawmakers were just getting back from their Easter and Passover break when a deal on big-picture allocations was announced. Those allocations are a key step to negotiating the nitty-gritty details of the budget.

"I hope everybody's rested up and had a good week off," Weatherford said during a meeting to kick off the negotiating sessions. "We've got a lot to do in the next two weeks."

Some subcommittees were more successful than others. The criminal justice panel worked out the vast majority of issues, bumping up a few relatively minor items. The education committee, on the other hand, ended with the Senate rescinding one of its offers after the House didn't agree to a series of strings that the Senate had attached to the offer. (Negron later said that he and McKeel had resolved questions about what had been bumped from the education talks, but didn't elaborate.)

Many of the big issues were relatively predictable even before the subcommittees got to work. Either Negron and McKeel --- or Weatherford and Senate President Don Gaetz --- will take care of how to spend performance funding for state universities and technology funds for public schools. Also, they will have to address Negron's plan to spend tens of millions of dollars on restoration and protection efforts at Indian River Lagoon and Lake Okeechobee and a series of projects like a \$10 million line item for a 1,000-foot-high business and amusement feature that would dominate Miami's skyline.

The back-and-forth causing the most-emotional response outside the Capitol, though, might be the \$13 million (or more) the Senate is earmarking to break up the joint College of Engineering now shared by Florida State University and Florida A&M University. Supporters of FSU say the university needs its own school to enter an elite group of public universities. Backers of FAMU fear that a stand-alone engineering college at the state's historically-black university would get less funding and attention than its counterpart.

Weatherford called for the Board of Governors, which supervises Florida's public universities, to get involved. "They are kind of the regulatory oversight body of the higher education system, and I think that their voice should matter quite a bit in this conversation," he said.

Negron signaled that the Senate wasn't standing pat at \$13 million. "I'm not only going to include the funding for the FSU College of Engineering in the budget, we're going to increase the funding," he said.

But neither side ruled out the other side's recommendation, meaning that a deal could be found to satisfy FSU alum and influential Senate Rules Chairman John Thrasher, a St. Augustine Republican pushing the idea.

**STORY OF THE WEEK**: Gov. Rick Scott calls for the Senate to vote on a bill that would offer in-state tuition rates to undocumented immigrants.

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**: "This session will not end peacefully if that bill does not get a vote on the Senate floor. I don't think anyone's operating under any alternative illusion. So they can posture and dream in Technicolor all they want, but this issue will come up on the Senate floor or this session will melt down." --- Sen. Tom Lee, R-Brandon, discussing the in-state tuition issue.







"MEMORIAL DAY EVENT"

Sunday - May 25, 2014

Starts at Noon - Ends at 5 pm

ELKS Lodge #1898 Pompano Beach, FL 33060 Phone 954-781-2300

DIRECTIONS to Event:

Take Atlantic Blvd East to Dixie Hwy, make a Left, go north to NE 10th St. Make a Right on NE 10th, and follow to Elks Lodge on Right (south side)

Service with Honor Guard

50|50

Leive Music

Safety & Membership Booth



ABATE of Florida, Inc Does Not Condone Drinking & Driving



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## MEMORIAL DAY RIDE



When riding in a group, remember to be aware of the riders in front and behind of you. Do not pass or change lanes Follow the directions of your Road Guards.

#### **SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2014**

Starting from the 5525 College Rd, Stock Island @ Sheriff's Station Parking Lot Kickstands up @ 10:00 a.m.

We will ride to the Big Coppitt Cemetery located at 258 Avenue &/4th St, Big Coppitt Key, after the ceremony we will continue up to 30535 Overseas Hwy Coconut's in Big Pine Key. From there we will ride to Little Duck Key MM39.5 to Veterans Memorial Park, South side of the 7 mile bridge, for the final ceremony ending by Noon.



Abate OF Florida, Inc. & Southernmost do not condone drinking and driving or riding Chapter Contributions to ABATE of Florida, Inc. or Southernmost Chapter are not deductible for tax purposes

New member sign-up and safety presentation will be available at this event.

For further information, please contact Martina at 305-289-5442 or hx10h@hotmail.com



# DC Insider: Federal agency expands authority from fighting diseases to studying how Americans use our highways

#### View the alert

Alongside the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, there is a relatively new player looking at motorcycle safety on our roads and highways.

It is the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Why the CDC? How is riding a motorcycle even in the CDC's crosshairs? Is the CDC attempting to say that riding is a disease? How is this possible? What is the CDC's agenda?

The CHROME CHRONICLES

The American Motorcyclist Association is asking these questions and may have found some answers.

The CDC came onto the AMA radar back in June 2012 with its release claiming that annual cost savings in states with universal motorcycle helmet laws were nearly four times greater (per registered motorcycle) than in states without universal helmet laws. It is no secret that the CDC wants more states to adopt mandatory helmet laws.

Then, it was the CDC's February 2013 Federal Register notice on its proposed project titled "Costs and Cost Savings of Motor Vehicle Injury Prevention: Evidence-Based Policy and Behavioral Interventions."

The AMA wanted the CDC to address our concerns with the proposed project's goal to "collect information relating to the costs of implementing motor vehicle injury prevention interventions" to get—in their own words -- the "biggest bang for the buck."

We learned that the CDC study would focus on 13 "interventions." One is "motorcycle helmet use laws."

Then the CDC struck again.

At its meeting in October 2013, the Community Preventive Services Task Force viewed a CDC staff-prepared presentation about the benefits of universal helmet laws. One of the slides links the adoption of universal helmet-use laws to a potential reduction in motorcycle riding, which would help meet the CDC's goal to reduce injuries and fatalities.

Let me say that again: One of the CDC's desired outcomes is the potential for reduced motorcycle use. (The task force had previously approved a recommendation for universal motorcycle helmet laws at its meeting in June 2013.)

The AMA questions the expertise and authority of the CDC and its task force in the traffic safety arena.

Motorcycling is not a disease to be cured; it is a legal and legitimate means of transportation and recreation enjoyed by an estimated 11 million Americans.

U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg (R-Mich.) shared the AMA's concern and sent a letter to the CDC on Nov. 21, 2013. In particular, Walberg wanted to know how the CDC has the authority to study highway safety.

The CDC responded by saying its authority is congressionally mandated.

Congressionally mandated?

This stimulated investigative juices at the AMA. After months of research, the AMA discovered that the CDC's authority comes from Section 399U of the Public Health Service Act. This is odd, because the PHS Act has been around for years.

Is Section 399U new and how did it amend the PHS Act?

Yes, the section is new. It was included in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, otherwise known as Obamacare. It increased the CDC's authority and gave it a congressional mandate to study highway safety, among other things. Specifically, Section 4003(b)(1) of the ACA amended the PHS Act to include Section 399U.

How does Section 399U expand the authority of the CDC's Task Force?

It expands the role of the Community Preventive Services Task Force by "... providing yearly reports to Congress and related agencies identifying gaps in research and recommending priority areas that deserve further examination, including areas related to populations and age groups not adequately addressed by current recommendations" (ACA, § 4003(b)(1); PHS Act § 399U(b)(6)) (ACA pages 425-426).

It also provides authority to the task force to study any area or topic it chooses. Under Section 399U, "Community preventive services include any policies, programs, processes or activities designed to affect or otherwise affecting health at the population level" (Emphasis added) (ACA, § 4003(b)(1); PHS Act § 399U(a) (ACA pages 425-426).

Although we can't all agree on the validity of mandated helmet laws, I am sure we all can agree that this is blatant government overreach that can affect all our lives by administrative fiat.

This is how a federal agency once tasked to curing the world's diseases is now studying our nation's highways – and, for that matter, anything else it chooses.

Washington, D.C.: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has publicly acknowledged that ethanol in gasoline can damage internal combustion engines by increasing exhaust temperatures and indirectly causing component failures. The statements are found in a rule proposal issued by the Federal Trade Commission regarding a new label for pumps that supply fuel blends high in ethanol.

The EPA statements support the long-held AMA position that inadvertent misfueling with E15 (15 percent ethanol by volume) fuel could damage the engines and fuel systems of the estimated 22 million motorcycles and ATVs currently in operation, as well as void the manufacturers' warranties.

The AMA also is concerned about the continued availability of E10 blends and E0 fuels -- gasoline with zero ethanol content -- if E15 is allowed to permeate the marketplace.

For more information about this issue, visit <a href="http://www.americanmotorcyclist.com/rights/amafuelforthought.aspx">http://www.americanmotorcyclist.com/rights/amafuelforthought.aspx</a>

Washington, D.C.: A proposed change in the language of the Driver Privacy Act in the U.S. Senate would expand the bill's scope to protect all information recorded by event data recorders installed on all "motor vehicles," including motorcycles. The substitute amendment was offered in committee by Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) to S. 1925, which deals with information collected by event data recorders, sometimes referred to as "black boxes."

While the government does not require the installation of event data recorders on motorcycles, some current models are equipped with the devices.

As originally introduced, S. 1925 would have granted privacy protection only for data the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration requires to be collected (49 CFR Part 563) – on passenger cars, multipurpose passenger vehicles, trucks and buses, which must be equipped with event data recorders.

A more sweeping bill, H.R. 2414, was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives in June 2013, by U.S. Rep. Michael E. Capuano (D-Mass.). That bill states that "any data recorded on any event data recorder in an automobile or motorcycle shall be considered the property of the owner of the automobile or motorcycle."

Under the House bill, no one but the owner could access the data without the permission of the owner or a court order.

**Washington, D.C.: Rep. Paul Cook (R-Apple Valley)** has introduced legislation to designate the Johnson Valley Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Area. Last year, the OHV community united in a successful battle to end the threat of base expansion to nearly 100,000 acres of Johnson Valley and ensured continued access to the area. Cook introduced H.R. 4371 to recognize this effort and highlight Johnson Valley's significance by making it the nation's first national off-highway vehicle recreation area.

Johnson Valley is explicitly designated for off-highway vehicle use under last year's deal negotiated with the U.S. Marine Corps. This was the culmination of a years-long campaign to save the Hammers from base expansion. The famed "King of the Hammers" Race, which draws over 30,000 people to Johnson Valley, can continue to be held in Johnson Valley. The Bureau of Land Management estimates that Johnson Valley currently generates more than \$71 million annually for the economies of local communities.

Orlando, Fla.: AMA members are invited to the 2014 AMA National Convention, Oct. 16-19, at the Orange County

Convention Center in Orlando, Fla. Held in partnership with the American International Motorcycle Expo (AIMExpo), an event that brings consumers, dealers and manufacturers together in one location for demo rides, product displays and motorcycling seminars, the AMA National Convention will provide fun activities for every AMA member.

In addition to a full slate of convention- and expo-related attractions, participants also will have the opportunity to attend the 2014 AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, welcoming a new class into the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame. Other elements of the AMA National Convention include the annual AMA member meeting, the annual AMA business member meeting, motorcycling-related seminars designed specifically for AMA members and other AMA member-exclusive benefits. A full slate of convention-related benefits and activities will be announced soon.

For updates on the AMA National Convention and AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, keep an eye on <a href="https://www.americanmotorcyclist.com">www.americanmotorcyclist.com</a> and <a href="https://www.motorcyclemuseum.org">www.motorcyclemuseum.org</a>, as well as the AMA's social media channels, including Facebook (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/americanmotorcyclist">www.facebook.com/amahalloffame</a>) and Twitter <a href="https://www.facebook.com/amahalloffame">@AMA\_Riding</a>. For information on the AIMExpo, see <a href="https://www.aimexpousa.com">www.aimexpousa.com</a>.

# ABATE Palm Beach Chapter Meeting Minutes April 19, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 11:50am as the Chapter President struck the gavel three times. There were 22 Chapter members present in addition to two guests. The Chapter recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and observed brief time of reverent silence.

**President Ed "Nighthawk"** Lattari – The President thanked Chapter members for their participation in the recent Poker run. The Chapter was informed that anyone needing items hauled to Leesburg to contact Nighthawk. Members of The Enforcers M/C were thanked for their attendance.

Vice President Dan "Slo Motion" Henderson – No report given

**Secretary Charles "CB" Barcellona** - Nominations for Chapter Executive Board of Directors and Trustees will continue.

**Treasurer Debbie "Foxybabe" Wenger** – A financial report was presented to the Chapter, and the Chapter is solvent. The trailer expense has been covered.

**Membership Trustee Debbie "Foxybabe" Wenger** – A membership report was presented, citing 226 Chapter members.

**Sgt. at Arms Pete "Petee"** Carroll – Petee discussed the installation of the trailer interior accounterments a fittings. Petee and CB will construct a closet in the trailer's nose area.

State Delegates Dan "Slo Motion" Henderson and Ken "Snooze" Gerecke – State elections were discussed. Mudder, State Sgt-at-Arms, is running for State Vice President. There are three candidates for State Lobbyist. They are Doc Reichenbach, John Luca and Jim Gladstone. State Meeting venues were discussed. The 501c3 corporate restructuring is moving forward. The State is working on a new vertical banner than can also have Chapter's names printed on it. Various new bills in Florida legislature were discussed. The ride to the Capitol was good. May is motorcycle safety month.

#### Products Trustee (position open) - No report

Newsletter Trustee Dan "Slo Motion Henderson – Slo Motion informed the Chapter that more advertisers always sought. A Chapter advertising sales person is being sought.

**Safety Trustee Charlie "Niblick" Wenger** – Niblick is now certified to be a safety trainer. The new Chapter banner for the safety table tent was shown to the Chapter. Nighthawk instructed Niblick to have purchase a second banner.

**Webmaster Dan "Slo Motion" Henderson** - A few new tweaks have been made to the Chapter website, and Slo-Motion will be taking on the duties of the ABATE state webmaster.

Old Business - No old business

**New Business** – Nominations for Chapter Officers and Trustees were continued. The Chapter's June Rally will be on the 28th of June, 2014. Alternate venues to Renegade's are being sought. The Brass Monkey in Lake Worth was

suggested. Nighthawk suggested that the Rally be from 7pm-11pm, in order to try to avoid June rain. An anonymous Chapter member was responsible for saving the life of a US Military Vets M/C member, who went down on his bike on I-95. The Chapter received a standing ovation at the meeting of the United Bikers Counsel of Palm Beach.

**Good of the Order** – Local events were announced. Triva received a honors award in her chosen profession of nursing. Phil's ticket was selected in the 50/50 drawing.

The motion to adjourn carried at 1:05m and the meeting was ended.

This concludes the minutes of the April 19, 2014 ABATE Palm Beach Chapter meeting.

ABATE of Florida, Inc. Palm Beach Chapter Nomination Update For Chapter Officers and Trustees

The following nominations for Chapter Officers and Trustees have been accepted by the nominees.

President: Nighthawk

Vice President: Snooze, Niblick

Treasurer: Foxybabe

Sgt-at-Arms: Carey, Petee

Membership: Foxybabe

Public Relations: OT

Products: Charlie Black

Newsletter: Slo-Motion

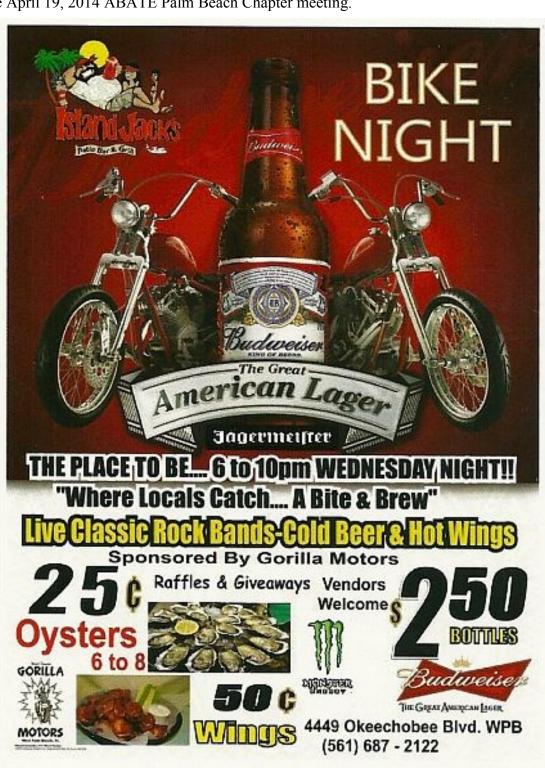
Safety Director: Hamish

Chapter Delegates: Snooze,

Foxybabe, OT

Nominations will continue during the May Chapter Meeting, which will also conclude nominations.

Elections will be held during the June Chapter Meeting.



# 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. In 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.

Slo Motion is looking for a company to do driveway paving. Know anyone good? Call 561-702-9929. Also if have enough money might be going to do a back porch pad.

Since no members sent in anything for Classifieds I'm posing this email for Miami Mike to help one of our chapters greatest supporters—Kathleen of Harley Palm Beach. Beside my cat Shadow made me do it.

Sunshine is lost and I am desperate to find her. I have been looking, crying and posting flyers since 4pm on Saturday, April 26. Sunshine is missing out by the S FL Fair grounds off Lyons Rd. Cats travel so she could be miles by now. I think she went west towards 441 then who knows. Please if you live out there or know someone who does please share this. This is my cell 561-255-7265

This is Sunshine's description:

Long Hair Tortoiseshell Female - Spay. Friendly - But Scared - 4 lbs .

Chipped - left ear is clipped and has a black spot inside it

Thanks so much for your help

Kathleen



# 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

	LEARLY Will Palm B or Life Renev			
First :	Last :		Road : _	
Address:				MC/Club/Org
City:	State:	Zip (full):	<del>-</del>	
Phone:	Cell:		_	
Email:				
Registered Voter?	Yes No State	e House: S	tate Senate:	US Dist:
How can you best	help ABATE? Time, La	abor, Money, Ot	her	
SIGNATURE				
Chapter newsletter <i>Th</i> not have Internet, prin mailed check here You may also order P	terLInk Mailed every other ne Chrome Chronicles is o nted copies can be gotten a . It costs over \$18 to mail, atches at this time Large Chapter Patch 10" b Small Chapter Patch 5"	nline at start of mo t the meeting or v so donations are <b>MEMB</b> by 10.5" \$35 each	onth in color with ac arious distribution p appreciated \$_ BERSHIPS FEE \$_ n # Total \$	ctive Links. If you do points. If you need
Date:	Grand Total of	membership, pat	ches, etc. Paid \$_	<del> </del>
	) / PATCHES CAN BE GO			

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



# Next Palm Beach Chapter Meeting VFW POST 4143

3RD SUNDAY MAY 18, 2014 11:30 am

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

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

#### GOALS & PURPOSES OF ABATE

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

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

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

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

To promote safe riding habits without infringing on individual rights.

To educate the public about motorcycle awareness.