

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. *PALM BEACH CHAPTER*



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**A *AMERICAN*
B *IKERS*
A *IMING*
T *OWARD*
E *DUCATION***

**NEXT CHAPTER
MEETING
11:30 AM
Third Sunday
Feb. 18**

**CHECK TWICE
FOR MOTORCYCLES**

**LET THOSE
WHO RIDE
DECIDE!**



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Put in the subject: ABATE and the officer to whom should see it and what about to so that message is directed right

Mailing Address HAS CHANGED **BACK**

ABATE - Palm Beach Chapter

P.O. Box 1256

Loxahatchee, FL 33470

Our website is **palmbeach.abateflorida.com**

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ABATE of Florida Inc

Palm Beach Chapter

P.O. Box 1256

Loxahatchee, FL 33470

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President's Message

Ken "Snooze" Gerecke

Well January is history hope everyone had a good time at this year's South Florida Fair.

In last months newsletter I talked about the possibility of our chapter closing for good.

Fortunately your board of directors has voted to keep things together at least for now. We have enlisted the help of our past treasurer Debbie Hamby who has agreed to be our treasurer till June

After that she will be moving up to the state level as ABATE of Florida state Treasurer. So you see come June if no one steps up and takes Debbie's place as chapter treasurer we will be forced to close down the chapter then. If you care about your chapter then come to our meetings every third Sunday of the month and find out what you can do to save it. Nominations for board positions start in April at our monthly meeting so if you are interested in a board position or you want to nominate someone for one please show up at our meeting in April. We do not want to shut our chapter down this will only happen if we do not have members who are willing to do the work that it takes to be an ABATE chapter. We need your help to continue on as ABATE Palm Beach County !!

Ride Safe Ride Smart !!!

SNOOZE

EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

You are encouraged to submit letters about ABATE related to events, articles, photographs, commentaries, etc. Please do not submit slanderous nor accusing letters, profanity nor nudity. Abate of Florida, Inc., will not accept any advertising that discriminates against any type of motorcyclist



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of Motorcycle Clubs and Organizations
SANCTIONED EVENT

The Future of Motorcycling

As most of you probably know sales of motorcycles are down as millennials lose interest in riding and as many of the old timers are having health issues that prevent them from riding among other things. I saw some suggestions in an article in the AMA magazine by Scot Harden, AMA Hall of Famer, about us taking this personally and trying to do more to inspire new riders and share our passion with non-riding friends. Who better to do so than current motorcyclists?

Here are some of his suggestions:

1. Share your passion with others. Expose non-riders to the sport by inviting them to your house to catch the Sunday game on TV. Entertain in your garage and use your bike to promote discussion about motorcycles. Let them touch, feel, even sit on your bike. Many of us started our love affair with bikes after sitting on someone else's bike.

2. Attend an event. Invite your non-riding friends to a motorcycle show, race or rally. Take time to introduce them to your friends, explain what is going on and share the experience with them.

3. Take a friend for a ride. It doesn't have to be all day, take them to lunch or for coffee. Let them experience the fun and enjoyment of riding.

4. Teach someone how to ride. (this raises some issues but many riders have enough property and small-displacement bikes to teach people how to ride off road. Get them over their initial fears. Show them it isn't as complicated as it looks. Encourage them to take a rider training course.

5. Invite them over for dinner and a movie. Show them "The World's Fastest Indian" (one of my personal favorites, what a great guy Bert Munro was) "The Motorcycle Diaries", "On Any Sunday", or "Take it to the Limit".

6. Share the experience. Tell co-workers about your latest trip or adventure. They probably already know you ride but have you ever shared exactly what that means and how it enriches your life? This would work well in many groups you are involved in.

7. Invite non-riders to go camping with you and experience the outdoors. Make sure you have your bike with you and find a place where you can enjoy the surroundings.

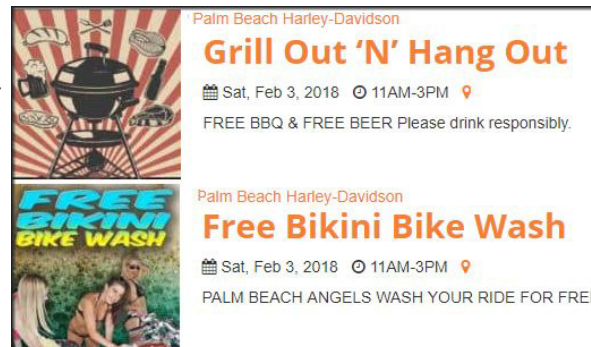
8. Visit your local dealer and invite a non-riding friend to tag along. Show off the great product offerings. Show them that bikes come in all shapes and sizes.

9. Target social media. Share pictures and posts you come across that are inspiring and show just how much fun motorcycling is.

10. Reach out to millennials. All you baby boomers make an effort to reach out to your children's friends. Show an interest in what they are doing. Ask them if they have ever thought of going riding. If you can, provide them an opportunity for them to experience the sense of freedom, adventure and excitement that motorcycling offers.

It is going to take a collective effort of everyone involved in motorcycling to turn around the current trend, dealers, organizations, manufacturers, clubs and each of us, working one-on-one with non-motorcyclists.

Scot Harden American Motorcyclist January 2018
Sally Carroll State Public Relations Trustee ABATE of Florida, Inc. www.abateflorida.com



Palm Beach Harley-Davidson
Grill Out 'N' Hang Out
Sat, Feb 3, 2018 11AM-3PM
FREE BBQ & FREE BEER Please drink responsibly.

Palm Beach Harley-Davidson
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Sat, Feb 3, 2018 11AM-3PM
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ABATE of Florida, Inc. Mission Statement

WHO WE ARE

We are a non-profit organization of motorcycle enthusiasts from all walks of life. We lobby and educate the government and the general public to promote motorcycling in a safe and positive image. We endeavor to enlist the cooperation and participation of all organizations and individuals that share a similar interest in preserving our American tradition of FREEDOM. We promote motorcycle safety, training, & political awareness. We ARE NOT A CLUB NOR 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, it is up to you to decide.

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 Membership Card, Event Discounts and Updates, Voting Privileges, Free Newsletter 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.

Brit Bike Mike sent these **The Motorcycle Riders Foundation** stories. These are FEDERAL national reports. The profiling one was been discussed at ABATE of FL Inc. state meetings and this haven't been a Florida issue with no legislation so why mess with a hornet's nest. But if more business restrict vests and colors.....

RIDING FREE FROM DC: Your Weekly Biker Bulletin from Inside the Beltway

Your Motorcycle Riders Foundation team in Washington, D.C. is pleased to provide our members with the latest information and updates on issues that impact the freedom and safety of American street motorcyclists. Count on your MRF to keep you informed about a range of matters that are critical to the advancement of motorcycling and its associated lifestyle. Published weekly when the U.S. Congress is in session.

NEWS FROM THE HILL – Hearings on Automated Vehicles and Has Ford Heard Our Battle Cry????

The Senate Commerce Committee brought its traveling tour to the auto show this week which is currently going on at the convention center here in D.C. The show was the back drop for a hearing on self-driving cars. And boy was it popular! I was in attendance along with 400 of my closest friends. Everyone from law enforcement to the disability community, to the blind, to motorcyclists, to safety groups to trial lawyers and insurance companies want a piece of the action. I took copious notes, observing that most Senators seemed on-board with the AV START Act. (Psssst, that's the bill in the Senate that the MRF fought hard to get motorcycle language included for safety testing). The exception to those supporting the bill? Senators' Wicker (MS), Blumenthal (CT) and Markey (MA). One of the comments that I found interesting was the timeline for when these types of vehicles would be the norm. Witnesses said within 3 years we'll see truly automated vehicles operating within geo-fenced areas...what the eff is that you ask? Think of it like a virtual geographic boundary, where when an autonomous vehicle enters a particular area, it will start working. Other witnesses expected the technology to catch on in urban areas first – think Manhattan and Boston – and then eventually spread to rural part of the country. The timeline for this? Two decades insisted one witness. There was also plenty of discussion and acknowledgement that consumer trust was “not great” (actually I would argue its downright piss pour among adults upwards of 40 at the moment) and that this concept of consumer trust would be the biggest obstacle to getting these vehicles to market. One other thing that got me thinking – the issue of privacy. Many have raised concerns about cybersecurity and at the hearing when this was discussed, some suggested that a way to mitigate the threat of cybersecurity would be the ability of these vehicles to know who you are, where you go and what you are doing. Which makes me think – can these two concepts; cybersecurity and privacy, even be mutually exclusive? Or is it one over the other? Needless to say, lots of unanswered questions here. This is truly a new frontier.

With all the debate lately on autonomous vehicles, I was encouraged to come across a recent Ford patent application for updated technology that would assist a driver to see the road in front of him. Though motorcycles weren't mentioned specifically, it should be noted that the illustrations that came along with the patent application included a motorcyclist. Here is a copy and paste of the rendering Ford included:

You can see the full patent application here:

<http://www.freepatentsonline.com/20180017799.pdf>

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OUR NEWSLETTERS are best viewed at palmbeach.abateflorida.com as most timely (by the first of month), in full color, and with active Internet links to stories, etc., of interest. And for us with older eyes, can be zoomed in without magnifying glasses. We do need our advertisers, donations and more members 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 if no Internet access. Non-members can buy a subscription for \$20 a year but the other two methods are faster as it takes more time and cost to get mailings done.

Another company that's finally at least MENTIONING motorcycles? Waymo – that's Google's self-driving car project who recently voluntarily filed their safety report with the government and in it, they (hallelujah!) discuss motorcycles – the geographic shape of and profile of in their testing in Mesa, Arizona and so far, its been working...fingers crossed! Here is the link to the Waymo report: <https://waymo.com/safetyreport/>

EXECUTIVE & REGULATORY UPDATES – Infrastructure Plan Leaked, Chaos Ensues

Despite being on his checklist of priorities for the first 100 days of his presidency, President Trump has released few details on his infrastructure proposal...that is until now. And “released” probably isn't the right verb to use. “Leaked” would be more applicable. The transportation world was abuzz this week when a 6-page document was obtained by a local D.C. news publication who promptly released it to the public. It offers a glimpse of what may be the next major package of legislation Congress debates. (that is, after we figure out how to fund the government past February 8...ya know, no big deal!) According to the document, there would be about \$200 billion (that's right, you saw a B and not an M) which would be divvied up to states (about half) rural infrastructure needs (about a quarter) with the remaining for “transformative” projects. The other thing that caught many eyes? TOLLING. The leaked memo says that states should have the flexibility to collect interstate tolls and utilize toll for their infrastructure needs. This has been a big no, no – there is a current ban on tolling existing interstates with a few exceptions. The Alliance for Toll-Free Interstates, of which the MRF is a member, quickly fired out a statement saying that if true, the plan is NOT good policy and they would actively fight against it. The other rumor on the street? That a gas tax increase could help financing of the package. What are your thoughts on this? As citizens, drivers and most importantly RIDERS, I'd like to hear your perspective. Thumbs up or down on an infrastructure package? And if up, how do we pay for it? Tolling? Gas tax? Charge it to America's credit card? Shoot me an email to tell me your thoughts – remember, I work for YOU: Megan@mrf.org

STATE NEWS – Shout out to my Michigan Buddies

I made cracks about spending January in Lansing – turns out the joke was on me. ABATE of Michigan put on a solid show and conference and their members could NOT have been more welcoming to me. >From asking insightful questions at the Saturday panel, to spending some serious \$\$\$\$ at the auction and raffle which also benefits the MRF and probably most importantly, plying me with jello shots and beer at the pool party, I had a great time. Thanks, Michigan for being one of the best.

I'm headed to Greensboro, North Carolina next. Excited to see that southern hospitality in action. Do you have any good pics to share from your state motorcycle events? Send them to Tiffany and she will feature them in our magazine or on social media. Here is her email: Editor@mrf.org or mrfoffice@mrf.org

MRF NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS –

You should have received a 'Call to Action' this week. This was a special one that comes directly from our Board Chairman and the legend himself, Kirk 'Hardtail' Willard. With the support of the MRF Board, he is asking that you (yes, YOU reading this) to take a few minutes to answer this 13 question survey about motorcycle profiling:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NMPS2018>

This survey is being conducted by our friends at the Motorcycle Profiling Project and is intended to capture data from 2017. You may not think completing this is important, but I assure you it very much is. The data that this survey captures helps paint a picture for us. It tells us if motorcycle profiling is on the rise (guess what, it is!) and where it is occurring. We take this data and turn it into advocacy talking points. It helped get the anti-profiling resolutions introduced in the Senate and House of Representatives and is also helping to persuade more supporters. So please - help us, help you by taking a few minutes to complete the survey. Its totally anonymous and you should feel free to share the link with your friends/family and anyone who rides.

Until next time...RIDE FREE-Megan Ekstrom
Vice-President of Government Affairs & Public Relations
The Motorcycle Riders Foundation

January 25, 2018 CALL TO ACTION, National Profiling Survey

Your MRF has been hard at work in Washington, DC shoring up support for bipartisan and bicameral legislation to address motorcycle profiling. H.Res.318 and S.Res.154 are pending before Congress and in need of additional supporters in order to move forward in the legislative process.

Like any credible, national organization we make our case for more supporters with cold, hard facts. To get these facts, we work closely with the Motorcycle Profiling Project who is collecting data to demonstrate where profiling is occurring in the country and if it is on the rise.

To help make sure the data we present to our lawmakers is as accurate as possible, I am asking you to take a few moments and fill out the survey which can be accessed by clicking on the link below. Its completely anonymous and its only 13 questions. YOUR VOICE MAKES A DIFFERENCE! <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NMPS2018>

On behalf of the entire MRF membership and its Board of Directors, thank you for your support on this issue.

NEWS FROM THE HILL – Lawmakers Talk AVs at Auto Show Plus Will the Government Turn Off its Lights?!

A gaggle of lawmakers were spotted in the Motor City this week (that's Detroit Rock City for you KISS fans) including Reps. Greg Walden (R-OR), Fred Upton (R-MI), Tim Walberg (R-MI), and Debbie Dingell (D-MI). They toured the North American International Auto Show in order to determine, *"How the American automobile industry is leveraging new technology to become a global industry leader in innovation and consumer safety!"* Which is basically a fancy way of saying, *"show us how these driverless car contraptions work and what you are doing to make sure they don't go berserk and kill us all!"* And while I don't know that our friends on Capitol Hill got the precise answer to that question, I think its safe to say they are hedging their bets that automated vehicles aren't just a lofty, pie-in-the-sky goal. In fact, GM's self-driving Cruise AV, a car without a steering wheel or brake pedal, made its first public appearances at the show. GM hopes to mass-produce it for a driverless taxi fleet in a yet-to-be-named city that would launch sometime next year. The company last week filed a request with the National

Highway Traffic Safety Administration to deploy the car, which doesn't have human-centric means of control for steering, accelerating or braking. Scared? Don't be....at least not yet. We're still here working on your behalf in D.C. making sure motorcycles are part of the equation when it comes to regulating this emerging technology. In fact, we even have some news on this front which will help hit our message home to lawmakers....scroll down for more.

I know I'll get few hate emails on this, but as your eyes, ears and voice in D.C. I feel like you need to know the greatest and latest related to the government shutdown that everyone's talking about. Does it have to do with motorcycles directly? No. But it does impact the work we do, the people we meet with and the effectiveness we have, so its worth a mention. A number of rank-and-file House Republicans endorsed a plan Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) came up with which would fund the government through Feb. 16. This was not the plan many wanted. Instead they were trying to reach a longer-term deal, so Congress could put this to bed and get to work on some other important stuff (ahem - autonomous vehicles, cough-cough RPM Act) BUT a certain alleged remark that may or may not have referred to an entire category of countries as "shit-holes" made this short-term fix a necessity. Why? Because of the alleged remark, Democrats are now saying the only-way-in-hell they would support a longer-term solution would be if Congress fixes what's called the Dreamers Act. This has to do with the legal status of undocumented immigrants who were brought to the U.S. as kids. So wait...what does this have to do with a shutdown? Bear with me: a longer term deal couldn't be negotiated so now Congress has to do some frenzied and fast negotiations to get a short-term deal (kicking the can to February) to keep the lights on. Literally. Government funding runs out on Friday. So by the time you read this we'll know if Congress played nicely together or if sh*t hit the fan. And what happens if it's the latter? Well, a better commute for me for one thing! 850,000 government employees will be forced to stay home and watch reruns of The Price is Right until the lights come back on. Other ramifications? No trips to national parks or zoos, no gun permits because the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms will close up shop and some other inconveniences. However, "essential" employees will have to keep coming to work...but just without a paycheck. Except Congress. They'll still get their paycheck regardless because that was written into the laws governing shutdowns. Super fair, amIright!?!?!? Stay tuned for an update next week. If the government does indeed shut down, I'll have no one to take meetings with! (though I may offer to buy them a round at the bar because that's the decent thing to do...at least for the government employees I like)

EXECUTIVE & REGULATORY UPDATES – Drugged Driving is the New Drunk Driving

Acting NHTSA Administrator Heidi King this week said she intends to make drugged driving a top priority for her agency...the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. King said the recent increase in traffic fatalities is "unacceptable" and she wants to find out how drug use has contributed to that upswing. King is supposed to announce plans for a summit on the issue shortly. King spent time Tuesday at the Detroit auto show pitching the idea to lawmakers to get their support. This issue has started to gain more traction within the Agency as

more and more states start legalizing marijuana and many still struggle with how to detect and measure drug impairment. Your MRF will be sure to watch closely as this develops to see to what extent, if any, motorcycles get wrapped up in this. (not I think you would because I am SURE all of you are perfect law-abiding, upstanding, boy scouts).

STATE NEWS – Proof That the West Coast is the Best Coast...

Only kidding! Sorry to all my buddies on the eastern seaboard! There was some truly outstanding news this week from Arizona and California where each state made progress on legislation to combat motorcycle profiling. In California, a state legislator confirmed she would introduce a bill to address the issue. This will be a key one to watch, folks. California is the NUMBER ONE state with incidents of motorcycle profiling. In fact, according to last year's national survey that the Motorcycle Profiling Project put out, 54% of ALL cases were reported in California alone. Arizona is 4th with the highest incidents following behind Texas and Florida according to the MPP data I analyzed. And while I don't have bill language in California yet, here is the link for the bill in Arizona that was just dropped: <https://apps.azleg.gov/BillStatus/BillOverview/70205?SessionId=119> Great work to both states!

MRF NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – Senate Panel on Motorcycles and Autonomous Vehicles Announced

As I've reported in previous issues, your MRF has worked HARD to tell lawmakers that riders are concerned about self-driving vehicles. And to make our voice even louder, we've done a lot of these meetings with Harley-Davidson Motor Company. We've been successful in getting the word out – so much so that the Senate Motorcycle Caucus has decided to hold a briefing on this exact topic in February. Lawmakers will gather together at 12pm on February 8 to discuss exactly HOW motorcycles and riders are being considered when it comes to the regulation of autonomous vehicles. We've helped get a solid panel together with riders, researches, and reps from NHTSA and the like. Invitations have started to circulate, and the buzz is spreading. If you'd like to push your lawmaker to attend the briefing (or send his staff) send me a note and I can forward you the invite to make sure its on their radar. Shoot me an email at me-gan@mrf.org

Last but not least, when you read this Friday I'll be on a plane to Lansing to speak at ABATE of Michigan's conference. If you'll be there, stop me and introduce yourself. I'll even take you up on your offer to buy me a drink at the banquet – it will be my birthday after all! I'm excited to celebrate with the Michigan folks!

NEWS FROM THE HILL – Changes to Committee Makeup & Leadership

Out with old and in with the new! This week House Transportation Chairman Bill Shuster (R-Pa.)

announced that he's stepping down at the end of his term not only from his congressional seat but also his Chairmanship of the Committee. He released a statement earlier this week saying he wants to spend his final year as Chairman to help pass a major infrastructure bill that the President has been touting since day one. And we care why? Well, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (aka T&I) is a BIG ONE for the MRF. Most issues that we work on here in D.C. on your behalf go through that Committee. Think: the highway bill, NHTSA funding, motorcycle checkpoints, helmet issues, autonomous vehicles...the list goes on. This is why we are watching closely to see who might take over the helm next year. Because whomever does will have his (or her!) own agenda. One potential contender? One name floating around is Jeff Denham. You may or may not have heard of him – he is a good guy out of California and most importantly? He rides a motorcycle and is a leading member of the House Motorcycle Caucus. His Chairmanship of the Committee would be a good one for the riding community. Other names being floated around? Congressman Sam Graves from Missouri. The other scenario we need to evaluate is that the Republicans lose their majority in the House and therefore lose their Chairmanship of the T&I Committee in this year's mid-term elections. If that's the case, Pete DeFazio from Oregon will likely take the Chairmanship. Stay tuned...

The Senate wasn't immune to its own committee shakeups – Senator Chris Van Hollen from Maryland announced that he would be joining the Senate's Environment & Public Works Committee. That matters because some of our other key issues move through this Committee – things like the RPM Act and anything that the EPA has a say in. We'll have to find out from our friends in Maryland how they feel about this move and whether we think Van Hollen will help things that have been stuck in the Committee due to lack of Democratic support.

EXECUTIVE & REGULATORY UPDATES – Dept. of Transportation **Moving Forward on Version 3.0, Plus Cybersecurity Concerns**

The Department of Transportation had a busy week publishing several requests for comment and information Wednesday as the department looks to update its automated vehicles policy to version 3.0, which it aims to release by the end of the summer. NHTSA and the Federal Highway Administration (both under the DoT umbrella) asked for thoughts on existing regulations and policies that could hamper the development and deployment of automated driving systems in vehicles. Of note in NHTSA's request: a focus "primarily, but not exclusively, on vehicles with [automated driving systems] that lack controls for a human driver" - think steering wheel or brake and accelerator pedals - the lack of which "poses potential barriers to testing" and compliance certification and verification. Your MRF continues to follow this area very closely testifying at a hearing last month pleading with the Agency to include considerations for motorcycles in the mix. We're also pursuing a meeting with the "higher ups" at the agency along with Harley-Davidson to make sure our concerns are addressed.

One of the other areas we've been advocating related to automated vehicles? Concerns over cyber security. Cybersecurity risks have become a fact of life for connected cars. Attackers have become more sophisticated and your MRF keeps telling folks to listen up. Several agencies are seeking suggestions from the public for how to reduce cyber risks, from information sharing to isolating important functions within the vehicle to developing security best practices. The MRF's position has been to foster innovation but continuing to put a premium on protecting the privacy and

security of consumer information and personal data.

STATE NEWS – Minnesota and Arizona News...

I got an email last week from one our A+ member organizations, ABATE of Minnesota. The email contained a photo (see below) of ABATE's Mack and Michelle Backlund personally delivering an MRF Champion Certification to Congressman Emmer. Emmer has been a friend to ABATE of MN since his days at the state legislature and has helped champion issues with the MRF, lending his name to some of our top priority issues including anti-profiling, the RPM Act and others. If you think YOUR Member of Congress deserves a MRF Champion Certificate, reach out to me and tell me why. We discuss candidates in the spring, make determinations in the summer and then announce them at the Meeting of the Minds. You know how to reach me if you have a suggestion....

My home state of Arizona was rockin' it this week. I heard from Mike Infazon with ABATE of Arizona that they've made headway on two key issues for their organization: anti-profiling and lane filtering. Mike tells me that the profiling bill should be dropped imminently, and they have an open dialogue about a measure on lane filtering. Great job, guys. Keep me in the loop as things progress in the Grand Canyon State.

MRF NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – Megan's Speaking Tour and P.S. You're Too Old to Care About Helmet Laws

Did I catch your attention with that headline? I certainly hope so. In case you don't follow us on Facebook, we posted an image this week that I took while at an annual transportation conference I attended in Washington, DC. The conference, which brought together 13,000 professionals from the U.S. and abroad to discuss transportation-matters, held a meeting on motorcycle policy and what's happening globally. While I was in attendance a document was passed around with minutes from the last meeting. I thumbed through to see on the last page there was a paragraph about the importance of helmet laws and some commentary from several individuals that now is the time to strengthen helmet laws because "anti-helmet people" (pretty sure he is referring to us) are "getting older" and therefore less opposed to legislation. Huh? I'd be interested to know what YOU think about that. And if our Facebook views of this post (13,000 and counting) are any indication of how you might feel, I could capture that in one word: PISSED. Folks, this is why we need you – many say our greatest days are behind us. We talk about the victories we held onto 20 years ago, but I can assure you that we hold on to those by the skin of our teeth. There is a constant threat that requires constant vigilance and we need MEMBERS to support our work in D.C. We need the support financially and we need human capital. If you're reading this, its because you are a Member of the MRF. But don't just write your \$30 check and call it a day – continue to support our cause. Participate in our Calls to Action, spread the word about the MRF, sign up a friend (or 5!) to become an MRF member and for the love of God – don't give up. Because that's what THEY are waiting on.

Thank you Mike for sharing

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Deborah Hamby
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WEEKLY EVENTS

One Mon Mob of Brothers MC
Open House @ Lone legion
Mon Dinner 6:30 States MC
Pompano Clubhouse

Once a Month Tues Lone Legion
MC Brotherhood Open House
2nd Tues Jupiter Moose Bike Night

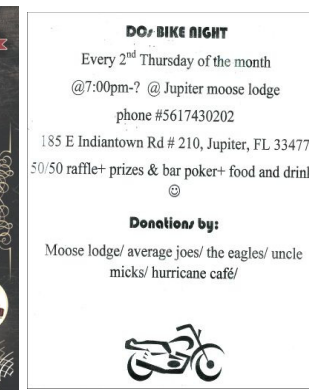
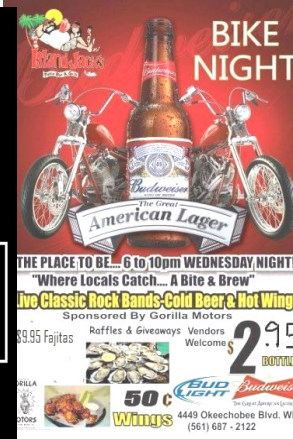
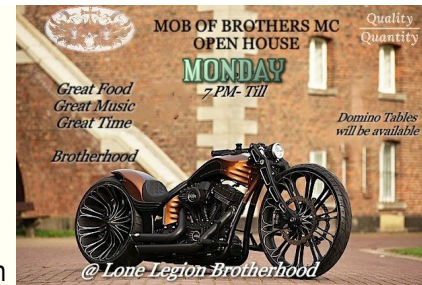
1st Wed Gin Mill BM Jensen Bch
Wed Island Jack's Bike Night with
Gorilla Motors
Wed Chit Chat's bike night 7pm
Free BBQ, music
3rd Wed States MC Lake Worth
Open House 8pm

1st Thurs PB Harley Abacoa BN
Thurs Once a month UBCPBC
Council Ride Night
Thurs Once a month Black
Pistons MC WPB Open House
3rd Thurs Treasure Coast Harley
Bike Night
?? Thurs Palm Beach Harley
Davidson Bike Night 5-9 PM
Last Thurs Turboz/Ralph's Bike
Night Jupiter

Fri Twice a Month AOA MC WPB
Open Houses
1st Fri Soldiers for Jesus Open
House
1st Fri Ink Link Bike Night

1st Fri Enforcers MC Party

SAT HOG Morning Palm Beach
Harley And often other events and
bikini bike washes



ABATE of FL Inc. PALM BEACH CHAPTER MEETINGS

11:30 AM V.F.W. Post
4143 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.

3rd Sun. Feb. 18

3rd Sun. March 18

3rd Sun. April 15

3rd Sun. May 20

3rd Sun. June 17

MARCH 9-19
BIKE WEEK-DAYTONA BEACH

MAY 24-26
MAGGIE VALLEY SPRING RALLY-MAGGIE
VALLEY, NORTH CAROLINA

JUNE 6-8
INDIAN MOTORCYCLE RALLY IN THE SMOKIES-
MAGGIE VALLEY, NORTH CAROLINA

JUNE 6-16
RIDE ROUTE 66-VILLA PARK, ILLINOIS

AUGUST 16-18
MAGGIE VALLEY SUMMER RALLY-MAGGIE
VALLEY, NORTH CAROLINA

SEPTEMBER 20-22
MAGGIE VALLEY FALL RALLY-MAGGIE VALLEY,
NORTH CAROLINA

STATES MC LAKE WORTH ANNUAL PARTY

SUNDAY FEB 4TH 12 -5PM

LIVE BAND STARRING



SUPERBOWL AFTER
PARTY

WATCH IN HIGH DEF

3570 BOUTWELL RD. LW



**FORGOTTEN SOLDIERS OUTREACH
POKER RUN
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD
REGISTRATION 9:30 AM TO 11:30**

**1ST PRIZE: \$200 • 2ND PRIZE \$100
3RD PRIZE: \$50**



Forgotten Soldiers Outreach

Use your motorcycle, trike or car
and join the fun. Raffles, food,
50/50 and adult beverages.
Everyone is welcome!

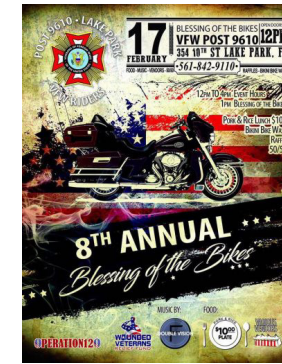
****Last bike in at 3:30pm****

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!
Event benefits:
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One poker hand and a swag bag.
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Interested vendors and sponsors please contact me at
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February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Black Pistons Open House	2 Ink Link Bike Night Soldiers for Jesus MC Open House	3 Forgotten Soldiers Poker Run PBH Grill Out & bikini Wash
4 States LW Annual Party	5 Mob of Brothers Open House	6	7 Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	8 Vintage Iron Bike Night Jupiter Moose Bight Night	9 AOA WPB MC Open House Clearwater Expo	10 ABATE of FL Ride to Capital Clearwater Expo
11 Clearwater Expo	12 ABATE of FL Ride to the Capital	13 Lone Legion MC Open House	14 Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	15 Thunder by the Sea Sarasota	16 Thunder by the Sea Sarasota	17 Miami Homestead Bikefest Thunder by the Sea Sarasota VFW 9610 Bike Blessing
18 Palm Bch ABATE Meeting Miami Homestead Bikefest Thunder by the Sea Sarasota MOB Annual	19	20	21 States LW Open House Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	22 Ralphs / Turboz Bike Night	23 AOA WPB MC Open House	24
25 Lone Legion MC Annual	26	27	28 Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights			

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Ink Link Bike Night Soldiers for Jesus MC Open House	3
4	5	6	7 Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	8 Vintage Iron Bike Night Jupiter Moose Bight Night	9 Bike Week Daytona	10 Bike Week Daytona
11 Bike Week Daytona	12 Bike Week Daytona	13 Bike Week Daytona	14 Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights Bike Week	15 Bike Week Daytona	16 Bike Week Daytona	17 Bike Week Daytona
18 Palm Bch ABATE Meeting Bike Week Daytona	19 Bike Week Daytona	20	21 States LW Open House Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	29 Ralphs / Turboz Bike Night	30	31

DELEGATE REPORT

Bill was able to get to Tallahassee and neither could I as no way to get bike there. But I am going to go for just the meeting. I've wanted to go to the Full Throttle Bike Builder Expo in Clearwater that weekend. I figure can go there Saturday then drive up to Monticello for the meeting. Will just be a long haul to return right after for Monday work—Slo Mo



ABATE
of Florida, Inc.

21th ANNUAL FREEDOM RIGHTS RALLY
February 10 - 12, 2018

State Meeting Sunday February 11th at 2:00 pm
State Board Meeting Sunday February 11th at Noon
Monticello, Florida • American Legion Hall • 1065 S. Water St. • Monticello, FL 32344

Ride to the Capitol Monday February 12, 2018
Behind Super 8 in Parking Lot Kickstands up at 9:00am

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

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STATE MEETINGS

Host Chapter & Location

Feb. 11 Tallahassee 12th
Ride to Capital
April 14 Peace River
June 9 Lighthouse
July 14-15 Leadership
Seminars
August 11 N. Orlando
Oct. 13 Gulf Coast
Dec. 8 Gator Ally



ABATE of FL Inc. Palm Beach Chapter GBNF

Ed “Gunner” Bassett
Frank “Pipes” Cook
Robert “Torch” Lyle
Niurka Crespo
Phil Moore
Michael Steffy
Tom “Ramblin’ Man”
Botticelli
Karen Watkins
“Bones” Maurice Clark

Five Motorcycle Sidecar Tours With Views You'll Never Get on a Bus

Sightseeing tours in stylish motorcycle sidecars are catching on as a unique, fun and intimate way to explore cities around the globe. Here's how to try one yourself.

By **Shivani Vora** Jan. 23, 2018

Sightseeing tours in motorcycle sidecars are taking off around the world. Riding in the three-wheeled vehicles with a driver who's also your local guide is a unique and fun way for travelers to explore a destination.

It can be an attention-getting way to explore a city, too. Remi Di Nino, a founder of the Paris sidecar tour company [Retro Tour Paris](#), said that spectators often snap pictures of the sidecars during excursions. "They're not your typical way of getting around, so people get excited when they see them," he said. "Also, the riders on the tours get a completely different perspective of Paris than they would by sitting on a bus."

Mr. Di Nino's company offers four excursions around Paris, ranging from 40 minutes to seven hours, in stylish Ural sidecars (Ural is a well-known sidecar manufacturer). The tours are customized based on what travelers want to see. Alternatively, their guides can lead the way and take them to their favorite spots in the city. Prices start from 69 euros a person; the price for a second rider starts at 20 additional euros. Book online on [their website](#).

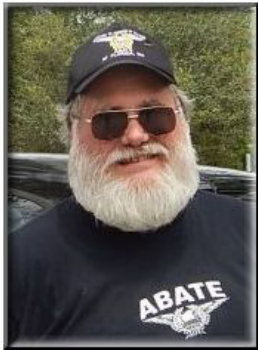
[BrightSide Tours](#) offers seven excursions in Barcelona, also in Ural sidecar motorcycles. The three-and-a-half hour Foodie Ride is a popular pick, and the tour includes stops at three popular tapas bars to enjoy traditional Spanish fare. It also includes a stop at Montjuic, a hill with views of the city, for a Cava toast. Prices start at 240 euros for one passenger, and 160 euros per person for two passengers. Book online on [their website](#).

[AndBeyond](#) offers a visually rich, eight-hour tour in and around [Cape Town](#), South Africa, in a vintage World War II motorcycle with a sidecar. Travelers ride through the scenic suburb of Camps Bay, along the edgy cliffs of Chapman's Peak, to Boulders Beach to see the colony of penguins, and to the Constantia Winelands, where they'll visit two boutique wineries. Bookings start at \$241 for two people. Reserve by email: contactus@andBeyond.com.

From Africa to Asia: [Beijing Sideways](#) has several sidecar tours of Beijing in a Chang Jiang 750 Chinese motorcycle. One option is the two-hour Beijing by Night that includes more than a dozen stops around the city, including at the gate of the Forbidden City. Also among the destinations are the National Center for the Performing Arts, an eggshell shaped building designed by the French architect Paul Andreu, and Tiananmen Square. Prices are about \$181 for the first passenger and \$91 for the second. Book by email: booking@beijingsideways.com.

Some hotels also offer sidecar tours. The [Royal Mansour](#), in Marrakesh, Morocco, for one, offers a sidecar excursion to the home of the renowned French perfumer [Serge Lutens](#). The residence is full of intricately carved ceilings and walls and still has the laboratory where Mr. Lutens has created more than 70 of his fragrances. Guests will be driven to the home in a vintage motorcycle sidecar; following the tour, their driver will take them on a ride to see popular sites in Marrakesh. Prices are around \$400 for two people, and for hotel guests only. Book by email: info@royalmansour.ma.

.....
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: Information and look under My Districts for your representatives.
: In these sidebars Underlined District # , names link in the online version.
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LEGISLATIVE REPORT

DAN “SLOW-MOTION” HENDERSON

PALM BEACH Co. FL House of Representatives

D81 Joseph Abruzzo (D)
850-717-5081 Tallahassee
561-470-2086 Boca/Belle Glade

D82 Mary Lynn Magar (R)
850-717-5082 Tallahassee
772-545-3481 Hove Sound

D85 Rich Roth (R)
850-717-5085 Tallahassee
561-625-5176 Palm Bch Grdens

D86 Matt Willhite (D)
850-717-5086 Tallahassee
561-791-4071(2) WPB

D87 David Silvers (D)
850-717-5085 Tallahassee
No local office info yet

D88 Al Jacquet (D)
850-717-5088 Tallahassee
no phone yet West Palm Bch

D89 Bill Hager (R)
850-717-5089 Tallahassee
561-470-6607 Boca Raton

D90 Lori Berman (D)
850-717-5090 Tallahassee
561-374-7850 Boynton Bch

D91 Emily Slosberg (D)
850-717-5087 Tallahassee
561-496-5940 Delray Beach

Jan 12 CORCORAN PAC COLLECTS \$630,000 IN DECEMBER

House Speaker Richard Corcoran’s political committee raised more than \$630,000 in December and had topped \$6 million since starting to pull in cash in early June, a finance report filed Wednesday shows. Watchdog PAC could be an important vehicle for Corcoran if the Land O’Lakes Republican decides to run for governor this year. The PAC raised \$630,215 in December, bringing its overall total to \$6.037 million, the report shows. It had about \$5.1 million on hand as of Dec. 31. Contributions last month included \$72,000 from the Pensacola law firm Levin Papantonio Thomas Mitchell Rafferty & Proctor; \$50,000 from U.S. Sugar Corp.; \$50,000 from New York-based Health Care Navigator, LLC; and \$40,000 from the Virginia-based health firm MHM Services, Inc.

GALVANO COMMITTEE TOPS \$300,000 IN DECEMBER

A political committee led by incoming Senate President Bill Galvano, R-Bradenton, raised more than \$300,000 last month, while a committee headed by incoming House Speaker Jose Oliva, R-Miami Lakes, collected \$190,000, according to newly filed finance reports. Galvano and Oliva are poised to take over as Senate president and House speaker after the November elections. Galvano’s committee, known as Innovate Florida, brought in

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888-759-0791 Palm City

D29 Kevin Rader (D)
850-487-5029 Tallahassee
561-443-8170 Boca Raton

D30 Bobby Powell (D)
850-487-500 Tallahassee
561-650-6880 WP Bch

D31
850-487-5031 Tallahassee
561-540-1140 Lake Worth

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Bill Nelson
Patrick Murphy

U.S. HOUSE

District 18
Brian Mast (R)

District 20
Alcee Hastings

District 21
Lois Frankel

District 22
Ted Deutch

\$304,550 in December and had about \$790,000 in cash on hand as of the end of the month. Contributions included \$50,000 from Florida Chamber of Commerce PACs, \$25,000 from TECO Energy, Inc., and \$25,000 from Florida Power & Light Co., the committee's report shows. Oliva's committee, known as Conservative Principles for Florida, had about \$802,000 on hand after the \$190,000 haul in December. Contributions during the month included \$75,000 from the health insurer Florida Blue, \$25,000 from Publix Supermarkets, Inc., and \$25,000 from Florida Power & Light, the committee's report shows. Candidates, political committees and parties face a Wednesday deadline for filing updated finance reports.

DEMOCRATS FILE TO RUN IN GRANT, HAGER HOUSE DISTRICTS

Democrats have opened campaign accounts to challenge state Rep. James Grant, R-Tampa, this year and to try to succeed term-limited Rep. Bill Hager, R-Delray Beach. Tampa Democrat Heather Kenyon Stahl opened an account Monday to try to unseat Grant in House District 64, which includes parts of Hillsborough and Pinellas counties, according to the state Division of Elections website. Grant and three other candidates also have opened accounts for the race. Meanwhile, Boca Raton Democrat Tina Scott Polsky became the fifth candidate to open an account to try to replace Hager in Palm Beach County's House District 89.

TOUGHER TEXTING WHILE DRIVING BAN MOVES IN HOUSE By Jim Turner

With support from the House speaker, a proposal to make texting while driving a "primary" offense in Florida received unanimous support Tuesday from a House panel as the 2018 legislative session opened. The House Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee approved the measure (HB 33), which would allow law-enforcement officers to stop vehicles when they see motorists texting behind the wheel.

"This will prevent the actual behavior of texting behind the wheel," said Rep. Emily Slosberg, a Boca Raton Democrat who is co-sponsoring the bill with Rep. Jackie Toledo, R-Tampa. "Because right now, it's completely unenforceable as a secondary offense."

Currently, motorists can only be charged with texting and driving if they are stopped for other offenses, such as speeding.

The bill, which must still go before two more panels, advanced despite concern by St. Petersburg Democrat Wengay Newton --- a committee member who voted for the bill --- who said the change from a secondary to primary offense could be used to racially profile African-Americans.

"I know the inference of having the safety," Newton, who is black, said. "I get it. But at the same time, when you talk about how it affects everybody in the state ... there are a lot that look like me that I want to ensure get a fair shake."

Also, some supporters of the texting-while-driving ban would prefer lawmakers require motorists to be "hands free" from electronic devices. They also contend the House proposal could prevent law enforcement from inspecting electronic devices if drivers simply claim they were using allowed GPS rather than typing messages.

"There's just too many loopholes in it," said Demetrius Branca, whose 19-year-old son Anthony Branca was killed by a distracted driver just over three years ago in Tallahassee. "In my mind, distracted driving, the core of it, is no different than drunk driving. You are doing something that you know to be dangerous, and you are endangering everyone around you."

The House bill would allow motorists to text while in stationary vehicles and would require law-enforcement officers to inform drivers they have a right to decline a search of the wireless devices. The measure also would prohibit officers from confiscating handheld devices without warrants.

The civil liberty protections were important for many lawmakers. Bills in the past to toughen texting-while-driving laws have failed to advance in the Republican-dominated Legislature.

Slosberg said after the meeting she'd prefer a "hands free" requirement and for charges to be criminal, but she said the bill had been negotiated and needs to be viewed as "a step in the right direction."

"We're moving the needle," added Toledo, who noted her stepson bragged that he knew he couldn't be pulled over for texting while driving unless he was committing a separate offense.

"That's when I'm thinking we need harsher legislation," Toledo said. "We need to be clear with our children that you cannot text and drive."

The proposal got a major boost in December when House Speaker Richard Corcoran announced his support.

The Land O' Lakes Republican said that as the father of six children, including two teens who have driver licenses, he has become convinced by statistics showing the dangers of texting while driving, particularly for younger drivers.

The state Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles reported nearly 50,000 distracted-driving crashes in 2016 in Florida, including 233 deaths.

Slosberg sought a texting-while-driving ban in the 2017 session and has spent the past several months urging support from local governments. More than 20 counties and nearly 30 cities approved resolutions in support of making texting while driving a primary offense.

For Slosberg, efforts to increase traffic safety are also personal.

On Feb. 23, 1996, Slosberg and her twin sister, Dori, got into a car with friends. The driver, 19, was speeding 90 mph in a 50 mph zone when the car struck a median and crashed into a car heading east. Emily Slosberg survived the crash with a punctured lung and several broken bones. Dori was killed along with four other teenagers.

The bill does not alter existing fines --- \$30 plus court costs for a first non-moving violation and \$60, court costs and three points on a driver's license on a second offense within five years of the first.

By not changing the fines, the House measure is closer in line with a Senate bill (SB 90) by Sen. Keith Perry, R-Gainesville, that will go before the Senate Transportation Committee on Wednesday.

No-Fault Insurance Repeal Gets Senate Backing

TALLAHASSEE --- An effort to eliminate the state's "no-fault" auto insurance system got rolling Wednesday in the Senate, amid concerns the change would not significantly lower rates.

Also, questions continue over the fate of the Senate proposal (SB 150) because of medical coverage requirements that are not included in a similar measure (HB 19), which is teed up for a vote by the full House.

The Senate Banking and Insurance Committee on Wednesday voted 10-1 to support the bill by Sen. Tom Lee, R-Thonotosassa. It would repeal the no-fault law, which requires motorists to carry \$10,000 in personal-injury protection, or PIP, coverage to help pay medical expenses after accidents. "I'm trying to make sure we don't raise premiums on Floridians, but at the same token that we protect as many options for consumers to get medical care in the event of an accident," Lee said after the meeting. "It's a balancing act."

The proposal must still go before two more committees before reaching the Senate floor.

Since a 2012 effort to reform the no-fault system --- championed by Gov. Rick Scott and then-state Chief Financial Officer Jeff Atwater --- efforts have increased in Tallahassee to replace it with a tort-based system.

The 2012 law, in part, required people involved in crashes to seek treatment within 14 days, put a \$2,500 cap on coverage for non-emergency conditions, eliminated massage therapists and acupuncturists from getting paid for medical coverage and set new requirements for chiropractic visits.

The 2012 changes were considered a last-ditch effort to maintain the no-fault system after rates increased because of fraudulent claims.

Lee's measure would require motorists to carry \$5,000 in what is known as medical payments coverage, or MedPay, and minimum amounts of bodily-injury coverage that would increase over time.

Sen. Rene Garcia, R-Hialeah, called his vote for the measure a "soft yes," saying he will continue to seek lower projected premium increases.

"Insurance rates will go up for those that have just PIP policies," Garcia said. "So, that means that a lot of us in the minority communities, for a lot of us that live in South Florida, some of those rates for those that have insurance just PIP-only policies, their rates will go up."

Under Lee's MedPay rules, people would be required to seek medical attention within 14 days of injuries occurring.

Through an amendment, Garcia was able to attach language to the bill that would allow MedPay to also cover chiropractic and dental costs.

Mark Delegal, a lobbyist representing State Farm, which is opposed to the Senate proposal, called Lee's amended measure "PIP version 2.0" and warned that the system will remain "costly and inefficient."

"You're throwing that right back on it, with a broad spectrum of providers, and without knowing the costs of that up front," Delegal said. "It's going to be unaffordable to a lot of people."

Lee's proposal is estimated to initially raise rates about \$4 a year, as the savings from the elimination of no-fault would be offset by increases in premiums for bodily-injury liability coverage and uninsured-motorist coverage.

"You could lower insurance premiums, if that was our solitary goal, by gutting insurance coverage and having people drive around with almost no coverage," Lee said. "The question is what is the most efficient system."

The House measure sponsored by Rep. Erin Grall, R-Vero Beach, faces opposition from some insurers, business groups and medical providers. It has been projected to save motorists on average about \$80 a year.

Grall's proposal, which was backed by the House Commerce Committee in an 18-7 vote last month, would eliminate the system's limits on lawsuits. Drivers at fault in accidents would be fully liable for damages, with the minimum bodily-injury coverage under Grall's proposal being \$25,000 for damages for injury or death of one person and \$50,000 for injury or death of two or more people.

Lee's proposal, starting Jan. 1, 2019, would set a minimum of \$20,000 for bodily injury protection that includes coverage for the injury or death of one person and \$40,000 for injury or death of two or more people.

Individual premiums would be expected to increase as the minimum coverage would grow to \$25,000 and \$50,000 two years later and to \$30,000 and \$60,000 on Jan. 1, 2023.

1-6-18 VACANT SEATS TO DOT LEGISLATURE DURING SESSION

By JIM TURNER THE NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

More than 1.1 million Florida voters won't have a representative in one of the legislative chambers when the 2018 session begins next month.

Resignations and a recent death have created six open seats, with most expected to remain vacant through the 60-day session because of scheduling requirements for special elections.

The vacancies do little to alter the Republican hold on both chambers, with the GOP up 23-15 in the Senate and 76-40 in the House entering the 2018 session.

But a vacancy can mean additional work for other lawmakers.

More importantly, Aubrey Jewett, a political-science professor at the University of Central Florida, said people in districts short of full representation could struggle to see local needs and funding advanced.

“Some districts have certain issues that are important which may not be pursued at all or pursued with the same vigor,” Jewett said. “Every district may have specific issues or projects that they would like funded. In the absence of representation, it is likely they will not get their share of the appropriations pie.”

“The system is set up so that most members primarily listen to and try to help their own constituents --- under normal circumstances it is considered bad form to work with a constituent who does not live in your district,” Jewett added. “Some years ago, when I was in college, I interned with my state representative. One of the first things that I was taught when being contacted by someone was to get their address and find out if they lived in the district or not. If they did not, I was directed to steer them towards their appropriate elected official.”

However, he noted that district staff members usually remain in place until new lawmakers are seated, which helps with some constituent services.

Jewett also said a lawmaker leaving unexpectedly could affect bills that the lawmaker sponsored or planned to champion.

“If no other member has the passion for one of these issues, then it is likely that the policies will not have an advocate and will have a harder time becoming law or being funded,” Jewett said.

As an example, former Rep. Alex Miller, a Sarasota Republican, resigned in August, pointing to family and work obligations as well as House leadership issues. She had earlier announced plans to pursue new state wildlife laws after videos surfaced of people abusing sharks. Since Miller's departure, no one has picked up issue.

As another example, Rep. Don Hahnfeldt, a Republican from The Villages who died of cancer Sunday, backed five local projects, including proposals that would provide money to Lake-Sumter State College and make improvements to County Road 466A, which runs through The Villages.

Having co-sponsors could help keep proposals moving after the departure of lawmakers.

Hahnfeldt, for instance, was sponsoring a bill (HB 1029) that calls for raising the legal age for smoking from 18 to 21. Rep. Lori Berman, a Lantana Democrat who is co-sponsoring the bill, intends to move forward with the proposal.

“I was honored to have worked with him on raising the tobacco purchase age to 21 and will pursue this important issue in his legacy,” Berman tweeted on Tuesday. Sen. David Simmons, R-Altamonte Springs, also is sponsoring a Senate version of the bill.

Susan MacManus, a political-science professor at the University of South Florida, said the vacancies highlight the importance of coalition building.

“It is never optimal in a representative democracy for vacancies during a legislative session,” MacManus said in an email. “But constituents missing a representative or senator have little choice other than to turn to others who share(d) his, her interests whether via a political party or committee assignment or interest group.”

With legislative seats vacant for months after the exits of lawmakers, MacManus said it is important for voters to understand the necessity of special-election timelines. That includes providing time for overseas voters to receive and cast ballots.

“Too many voters see this as an intentional delay rather than as mandated protection of overseas voters' right to vote,” MacManus said.

Leon County Circuit Judge Charles Dodson this month rejected arguments by Florida Democratic Party leaders that special elections in two legislative districts should be held more quickly so the seats

could be filled for at least part of the legislative session.

Dodson described as “unfortunate” the timing of the resignations of former **Sen. Jeff Clemens** in Palm Beach County's Senate District 31 and former Rep. Daisy Baez in Miami-Dade County's House District 114. But he said moving up special election dates set by Gov. Rick Scott could lead to an argument that shorter windows for absentee voting would prevent people from casting ballots.

“I wish I could do something,” Dodson said as he ruled against the party's request. “But there really isn't time to do it.”

State law requires 45 days for absentee voting before special and general elections. The party argued the requirement shouldn't apply to special elections.

Here are details of the seats that will be vacant for all or part of the session, which starts Jan. 9 and is scheduled to end March 9:

HOUSE DISTRICT 33

- Vacant because of the death of Republican Don Hahnfeldt of The Villages.
- Includes Sumter County and parts of Lake and Marion counties.
- Election dates have not been set.
- Registered voters as of October 2016: 140,817.

HOUSE DISTRICT 39

- Vacant because of the resignation of Auburndale Republican Neil Combee.
- Includes parts of Osceola and Polk counties.
- Special primary election: Feb. 20.
- Special general election: May 1.
- Registered voters as of October 2016: 112,258.

HOUSE DISTRICT 72

- Vacant because of the resignation of Sarasota Republican Alex Miller.
- Includes part of Sarasota County.
- Special primary election: Was held Dec. 5.
- Special general election: Feb. 13.
- Registered voters: 124,346.

HOUSE DISTRICT 114

- Vacant because of the resignation of Coral Gables Democrat Daisy Baez.
- Includes part of Miami-Dade County.
- Special primary election: Feb. 20
- Special general election: May 1
- Registered voters as of October 2016: 96,381

SENATE DISTRICT 16

- Vacant because of the resignation of Clearwater Republican Jack Latvala, which took effect Jan. 5.
- Includes parts of Pasco and Pinellas counties.
- Election dates have not been set.
- Registered voters as of October 2016: 336,940.

SENATE DISTRICT 31

- Vacant because of the resignation of Lake Worth Democrat Jeff Clemens.

--- Includes part of Palm Beach County.
--- Special primary election Jan. 30.
--- Special general election: April 10.
--- Registered voters as of October 2016: 305,998

HOUSE TO MOVE QUICKLY ON 'SANCTUARY CITIES'

A bill aimed at “sanctuary cities” will be one of the first items of business for the Florida House when the 60-day legislative session begins next week. House Speaker Richard Corcoran, R-Land O' Lakes, said Tuesday on Twitter that the proposal (HB 9) will pass quickly. “Sanctuary cities are a threat to the safety of our communities,” Corcoran tweeted. “On week one of session the Florida House will pass a bill that will enforce the rule of law.” The proposal, sponsored by Rep. Larry Metz, R-Yalaha, would require state and local agencies to cooperate with federal immigration enforcement and would bar sanctuary policies. It drew quick praise from Corcoran in November after getting approval from the House Judiciary Committee, the only committee that heard the bill. The House has approved similar measures the past two sessions, but the proposals have died in the Senate. The House Republican position has drawn heavy opposition from Democrats and immigrant advocates who argue, in part, that the bill would lead to racial profiling by authorities.

OTHER LAWMAKERS MAY PICK UP HAHNFELDT BILLS

House members will be able to pick up legislation filed by the late Rep. Don Hahnfeldt without it counting against their session limit. Speaker Richard Corcoran, R-Land O' Lakes, announced in a memo to members that a motion will be made on Jan. 9, the opening day of the annual legislative session, that will allow measures filed by Hahnfeldt to receive new sponsors. Also, those measures won't count against a six-bill limit for House members. Corcoran noted he consulted with Minority Leader Janet Cruz, D-Tampa, before making the announcement. “As with any other piece of legislation, these bills will be evaluated and advanced through the committee process on their merits,” Corcoran said. Hahnfeldt, a Republican from The Villages, died of cancer on Dec. 24. He was 73. He was the primary sponsor for five bills and five additional proposals seeking money for projects in his district. Rep. Lori Berman, D-Lantana, has already announced she intends to move forward with a bill (HB 1029) seeking to raise the legal age for smoking from 18 to 21. Berman and Hahnfeldt co-sponsored the measure.

REPUBLICAN DESANTIS LAUNCHES GUBERNATORIAL BID

U.S. Rep. Ron DeSantis filed paperwork Friday to formally enter Florida's 2018 gubernatorial race, after landing praise from President Donald Trump and rounding up a list of wealthy financial backers. DeSantis, a Palm Coast Republican, opened accounts that will allow him to raise money for a primary contest that already includes state Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam and is expected to be joined by House Speaker Richard Corcoran. “As somebody who is a military officer, an Iraq veteran, a proven conservative, and then with the support of the president, I'm in a position to exercise the leadership that can build on the great work that Gov. Rick Scott has done to advance economic opportunity, reform education and to drain the swamp in Tallahassee, which needs to be drained just like Washington,” DeSantis said during an appearance Friday on the Fox News show “Fox & Friends.” An official campaign kick-off will occur later this month, a release from his campaign said.

DEMOCRATS FILE IN LEE, PETERS DISTRICTS

Two Democrats have opened campaign accounts to run this year in districts held by Sen. Tom Lee, R-Thonotosassa, and Rep. Kathleen Peters, R-Treasure Island, according to the state Division of Elections website. Kathy Lynn Lewis of Wesley Chapel became the first Democrat to file the paperwork in Sen-

ate District 20, which includes parts of Hillsborough, Pasco and Polk counties. Lee has opened an account to run for re-election in the district, though he has also indicated he could run for state chief financial officer. Republican John Houman of Thonotosassa also has opened an account for the race. Meanwhile, in Pinellas County's House District 69, Javier Centonzio of St. Petersburg became the second Democrat to enter the race to replace Peters, who is not running for re-election. Also in the race are St. Petersburg Democrat Jennifer Webb, St. Petersburg Republican Jeremy Bailie and Madeira Beach Republican Raymond Blacklidge.

TOLEDO DRAWS CHALLENGE FOR TAMPA HOUSE SEAT

Freshman Rep. Jackie Toledo, R-Tampa, has drawn a Democratic challenger as she tries to win a second term in the Florida House. Democrat Debra Roberts Bellanti of Tampa opened a campaign account Wednesday to run this fall in House District 60, according to the state Division of Elections website. Toledo had raised \$87,350 for her re-election bid as of Nov. 30, including \$39,800 in November. She has received contributions from major players in Tallahassee such as the insurer Florida Blue, the HCA health-care chain and a Florida Retail Federation political committee.

TOMKOW DOMINATES FUNDRAISING IN HD 39

Polk City Republican Josie Tomkow has jumped off to a major fundraising lead in a special election to replace former state Rep. Neil Combee in Central Florida's House District 39. Tomkow raised \$61,895 from Nov. 28 through Thursday, bringing her overall total to \$75,155, according to reports filed Tuesday with the state Division of Elections. Tomkow is competing in a Feb. 20 special primary election against Bartow Republican Jennifer Spath, who raised \$4,000 from Dec. 5 through Thursday and loaned \$25,000 to her campaign. The winner of the primary will face Kathleen Democrat Ricky Shirah in the May 1 general election. Shirah raised \$500 and loaned \$1,000 to the campaign from Dec. 8 through Thursday, according to the finance reports. Combee, a Republican, left the House seat in November to take a federal agriculture job. District 39 includes parts of Polk and Osceola counties.

DEMOCRAT TOPS \$78,000 IN MIAMI-DADE HOUSE RACE

Democrat Javier Fernandez raked in more than \$78,000 during a six-week period as he began his special-election campaign for a Miami-Dade County House seat. Fernandez raised \$78,510 from Nov. 17 through Thursday for the race in House District 114, a seat that opened when Coral Gables Democrat Daisy Baez resigned from the Legislature in November. Fernandez is one of four candidates seeking the seat. Republicans Andrew Vargas and Jose Pazos will square off in a Feb. 20 GOP primary, with the winner running against Fernandez and unaffiliated candidate Liz de las Cuevas in a May 1 special general election. Vargas raised \$18,500 from Nov. 1 through Thursday, while Pazos raised \$3,050, newly filed finance reports show. De las Cuevas raised \$5,165 during the period. Baez stepped down after pleading guilty to a perjury charge in an investigation into her residency.

INGOGLIA, BILIRAKIS DRAW CHALLENGERS

State Republican Chairman Blaise Ingoglia has drawn a GOP challenger for his state House seat, while a new foe has emerged for U.S. Rep. Gus Bilirakis, R-Fla. Republican Jeff Stabins of Spring Hill opened a campaign account this week to run against Ingoglia in Hernando County's House District 35, according to the state Division of Elections website. Ingoglia had raised \$74,250 for the race as of Nov. 30, as he runs this year for a third term in the state House. Meanwhile, former federal prosecutor and FBI agent Chris Hunter announced this week he will run against Bilirakis in Congressional District 12, which includes Pasco County and parts of Pinellas and Hillsborough counties. Hunter, a Democrat, teaches at Stetson University College of Law and the University of Tampa, according to his campaign website.

COSTELLO TO RUN FOR CONGRESSIONAL SEAT

Former state lawmaker Fred Costello is set to make a third run for Congress. Costello will officially launch his campaign in Congressional District 6 at an event Saturday at Rockefeller Park in the Republican's hometown of Ormond Beach, his campaign announced Monday. District 6, which includes Volusia, Flagler and parts of Lake and St. Johns counties, is represented by Congressman Ron DeSantis, a Palm Coast Republican who is expected to run for governor this year. Costello had announced in August that he would run if DeSantis sought another office. DeSantis defeated Costello in a three-way Republican primary in 2016. Costello received 24.7 percent of the vote, while DeSantis pulled in 61 percent. In 2016, DeSantis initially ran for U.S. Senate but ultimately decided to seek re-election to the U.S. House after U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio re-entered the Senate contest. DeSantis also topped Costello in a 2012 primary that included seven candidates. Costello, a dentist and former mayor of Ormond Beach, represented state House District 26 from 2010 to 2012 and, after redistricting, House District 25 from 2014 to 2016.

MCCLURE VICTORY IN HOUSE SPECIAL ELECTION CERTIFIED

A state panel Tuesday formally certified the results of a special election that will lead to Republican Lawrence McClure representing Hillsborough County's House District 58 during the legislative session that starts Jan. 9. McClure easily topped three other candidates in a Dec. 19 special election for the seat, which former Rep. Dan Raulerson, R-Plant City, left during the summer, citing health and business reasons. The state Elections Canvassing Commission, made up of Gov. Rick Scott, Attorney General Pam Bondi and Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis, certified the results, with McClure receiving about 54.5 percent of the vote.

VARGAS LEADS GOP FUNDRAISING IN MIAMI-DADE SPECIAL ELECTION

Preparing for a Feb. 20 special primary election in a Miami-Dade County House district, Republican Andrew Vargas has continued to build a fundraising edge over GOP opponent Jose Pazos, according to newly filed finance reports. Vargas raised \$18,500 from Nov. 28 through Thursday, bringing his overall total to \$154,823. Contributions during the month-long period included \$3,000 from divisions of the HCA health-care chain and \$3,000 from political-action committees linked to the Florida Justice Association trial-lawyers group. Pazos, meanwhile, raised \$3,050 during the period, bringing his overall total to \$16,750, the reports filed with the state Division of Elections show. Vargas and Pazos are running in House District 114, which opened in November when former Rep. Daisy Baez, D-Coral Gables, resigned after pleading guilty to a perjury charge in an investigation into her residency. The winner of the Republican primary will face Democrat Javier Fernandez and unaffiliated candidate Liz de las Cuevas in a May 1 special general election. Updated finance information had only been posted Tuesday morning for the Republican candidates.

TEN ISSUES TO WATCH IN 2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

(Subscribers: This is part of a series of stories previewing issues for the 2018 legislative session)

By JIM SAUNDERS THE NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

THE CAPITAL, TALLAHASSEE, January 4, 2018..... Florida lawmakers will start the 2018 legislative session Tuesday, with Gov. Rick Scott giving his annual State of the State address.

During the subsequent two months, the House and Senate will negotiate a state budget and consider hundreds of bills. Here are 10 big issues to watch as the session moves forward:

BUDGET: Scott has proposed an \$87.4 billion spending plan for the fiscal year that starts July

1. The proposal includes politically popular ideas such as boosting education funding and providing tax cuts. But the proposal is only a starting point for lawmakers, who are expected to face a tight budget. A September analysis estimated a slim \$52 million surplus for the coming year --- and that did not account for the state's costs from Hurricane Irma.

ENVIRONMENT: Eyeing money from a 2014 constitutional amendment about land and water conservation, lawmakers will consider a series of proposals that could shield property from development and restore waterways. For example, Senate budget chief Rob Bradley, R-Fleming Island, has proposed spending \$100 million a year on the Florida Forever program and wants to set aside \$50 million a year for the restoration of the St. Johns River, its tributaries and the Keystone Heights lake region in North Florida.

HEALTH CARE: House Republican leaders likely will renew a push to ease health-care regulations, an effort they say would help increase access to care and lower costs. Examples include eliminating the “certificate of need” approval process for hospital building projects and ending a restriction on patients staying overnight at ambulatory surgical centers. Such proposals, however, have died in recent years in the Senate amid opposition from parts of the hospital industry.

HIGHER EDUCATION: Senate President Joe Negron, R-Stuart, has made a top priority of revamping the higher-education system and will continue seeking changes during his final term. Senators are expected to quickly approve a bill that would make permanent an expansion of Bright Futures scholarships and take steps to further bolster need-based aid. Negron also wants changes such as holding universities to a four-year graduation standard in performance funding.

HURRICANE IRMA: When Hurricane Irma smashed into Florida on Sept. 10, it reset priorities for the 2018 legislative session. Lawmakers are considering dozens of ideas for responding to Irma and preparing for future storms. For instance, they are looking at possibly providing financial help to the agriculture industry, which took at least a \$2.5 billion hit in Irma. They also will grapple with Scott's push to require long-term care facilities to have generators and fuel to keep buildings cool when electricity goes out.

INSURANCE: Insurance lobbyists will try to persuade lawmakers to revamp laws dealing with a controversial practice known as “assignment of benefits,” which the industry blames for increased property-insurance costs. The practice involves policyholders signing over benefits to contractors, who then pursue payment from insurers --- often leading to disputes and lawsuits. Lawmakers also will consider renewed proposals to eliminate the state's no-fault auto insurance system.

K-12 EDUCATION: House Speaker Richard Corcoran, R-Land O' Lakes, has made clear he wants to continue expanding school-choice programs, which draw opposition from Democrats and many public-school officials. The House has started moving forward with a bill that would offer voucher-like scholarships to students who are bullied in public schools. Meanwhile, the House and Senate face a key budget disagreement on the use of increased property-tax revenues in funding public schools.

OPIOID EPIDEMIC: With overdoses skyrocketing and families being torn apart, lawmakers will look for ways to address the state's opioid epidemic. Scott wants to spend \$53 million to address the issue, with much of the money going to substance-abuse treatment. Scott and lawmakers also could place limits on initial opioid prescriptions that doctors write for patients. The idea is to prevent patients from get-

ABATE Palm Beach Chapter Meeting Minutes

Date: 1/19/18

Meeting Called to order at 11:40 AM 20 Members Present 0 Guest Present

Meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence

PRESIDENT: Thanked everyone for coming out. Participation is way down . Volunteers for positions will be needed in June otherwise the chapter will be closing down. We have the same people holding multiple positions for years.

VICE PRESIDENT: There will be a celebration of life for Bones this afternoon.

SECRETARY: Read the By Laws dealing with the disbandment of chapter. Current board members plan on keeping their position until June. Asked if anyone had any objections to last month's meeting minutes as published in chapter newsletter. There were none.

TREASURER: We are in the green. Event was financially a success..

MEMBERSHIP: Currently at 150.

SARGENT AT ARMS: Nothing to report.

SAFETY: Not many events out there .

DELEGATE: Can not attend Tallahassee. Will have to inform state. (update: Slo Mo going for just the meeting)

LEGISLATIVE: Full report is available in the newsletter. Check the newsletter so you can determine your local reps and when elections are held. There is a push to make texting and driving a primary offense.

PR/COMMUNICATIONS: Alls well. Looking for a mass email system.

PRODUCTS: Still no products person.

NEWSLETTER: Considering dropping print version to 100 a month.

OLD BUSINESS: Chapter will not close just yet. Current board will stay on their terms in

hopes for volunteers for positions come nominations in April and May.

NEW BUSINESS: June 24 is our next event date if we can keep the chapter together

GOOD OF THE ORDER: A collection was held for the chapter in place of 50/50.
Bones celebration of life will be at 3pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 12:40 pm

We all know that many motorcycle industries are on a down sizing.
We lost Wheels on the Roads and even some national mags going

Massive Motorcycle Magazines Changes

January 18, 2018 by [Buzz](#)

Lots of significant changes in the motorcycle magazine world with the new year. So we thought it was important to share where we are and what we are hearing about the other magazines.

TAM Communications: Published since 1989, *American Iron Magazine* is fine. I (Buzz Kanter) have been here since 1991 and have no plans to go away. We will continue to publish *American Iron Magazine* with 13 great issues again this year. One every four weeks as we have for years. We continue to sell in stores (\$6.99 in the US) or by [subscription](#) (\$24.97 for 13 issues). We are also publishing our all-tech and DIY *American Iron Garage* at 6 issues a year. It is sold on the newsstand (\$6.99 in the US) or via [subscription](#) (\$19.97 a year). Both have significant reader and advertiser support and we thank you for that.

Paisano: We hear *Easyriders* is still published monthly, but they have shut down *V-Twin*, *In The Wind*, *Wrench*, and *Road Iron* and folded them all into *Easyriders*.

Bonnier: We hear *Hot Bike* has been cut to only 6 issues a year, and that includes *Baggers*, which was recently shut down and folded into *Hot Bike*. *Motorcyclist* will stay at 6 issues a year. *Cycle World* is being cut to only 4 issues a year.

We are pleased to report that *Cycle Source*, which continues at 12 issues a year, also seems to be doing well.

We ask that you support any and all motorcycle magazines. In an era of fake news, these professional magazines serve an important role to keep enthusiasts informed and educated, and to help keep the industry moving forward.

<https://www.aimag.com/motorcycle-magazines-today/>

WHY JOIN ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.?

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

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

JOIN FOR THE CAUSE. Everything is voluntary, we understand work and family comes first. We hope you can help in any small way, vote and spread the word.

BENEFITS Your money is used to provide a lobbyist to the state and federal government to watch for our rights and freedom. The State *MasterLink* newsletter every 2 months we bring back from State meeting or read it online. The chapter newsletter is available online at palmbeach.abateflorida.com so is in color, with active Internet links and zoomable. Members get free classified ads in our newsletters.

INSURANCE As an active member 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 so only if you are interested in more insurance. If they bother you contact our 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.

MOTORCYCLE INSURANCE Palm Beach Chapter members can get an insurance discount with Leslie Kay Progressive insurance company. Contact them for a quote 1-866-367-1788 www.LeslieKays.com The \$3000 accessory package is normal. The State has arranged with Coastal Insurance Company to offer members up to 10% discount and \$3000 parts and accessories coverage. They are at 190 Hwy A1A Suite, Satellite Beach FL. Agent Doug Guido's phone is 888-596-2453. So these are two more options to compare with your company.

PRIVACY Your email, address and phone are never given out to anyone except State/Chapter executive board.

EMAILINGS you can be added to a mass mailing which you can opt to be removed at end of email. Usually only do twice a month to let you know our Newsletter is online and remind you of chapter meetings. Local events are included and sometimes urgent matters may be included. No one will see your email **PHONE TEXT** another way to communicate with members. Your phone number may be added to our text alert system To change or add the chapter email is palmbeach.abateflorida@gmail.com Our website is palmbeach.abateflorida.com

We have a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/AbatePalmBeachChapter>

Mail: **ABATE - Palm Beach Chapter, P.O. Box 1256, Loxahatchee, FL 33470**

Another benefit of chapter membership in ABATE of FL Palm Beach is having a free business card in newsletter and free newsletter classified for items to sell or acquire. Support your brothers and sisters when possible, Besides a \$4,000 ADD insurance policy, discount Leslie Kay insurance, we are looking into other benefits for members. We are always in need of more paid advertisers so find any business to benefit from our low rates and support our newsletter and chapter.

Membership Melissa Limbaugh 561-312-4080 Melissapalmbeachabate@yahoo.com

A.D.D. INSURANCE POLICY UPDATE

We all realize the \$4,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance policy is one of the best benefits of being an ABATE member. That is one reason to keep your membership up to date. You MUST name someone to get the money in case of death to prevent taxes and being in probate court. So when you receive the yellow card mailed from our state office, you can complete it and mail to insurance company. Most likely an agent will contact you even if you said not to. If they do, be SURE to get their name and number upfront. They do NOT need to visit you even to deliver the certificate. If they insist or get push, contact ABATE of FL. main office and report it but you MUST have the agents' name and number for action to be taken. Otherwise you may just return the completed yellow card to ABATE to have on file. Then be sure your survivors know to contact ABATE for the benefits.

STATE OFFICE: ABATE OF Florida, Inc. PO Box 2520, Deland, FL 32721-2520

Phone: (386) 943-9610

Fax: same

Email: flabate@bellsouth.net



**ABATE OF FLORIDA INC.
PALM BEACH CHAPTER
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**



ALL APPLICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Membership Dues: \$20 for 1 year or \$600 for Life Membership per person

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

ABATE — Palm Beach Chapter

P.O. Box 1256

Loxahatchee, FL 33470

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY Will Palm Beach Chapter be your HOME voting Chapter

NEW Member: Year or Life Renew: Transfer: Address Change:

First : Last : Road :

Address:

City: State: Zip (full): -

Phone: Cell: Text notification Yes ☐ No ☐

Email for News Alerts

Registered Voter? Yes ☐ No ☐ State House: State Senate: US Dist:

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

State newsletter the *MasterLink* every other month online and our Chapter newsletter *The Chrome Chronicles* is online at start of month in color with active Links.

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

SIGNATURE

Date: MEMBERSHIPS FEE \$

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

palmbeach.abateflorida.com

There still may be time....

In this space in the last issue, my editorial was about why it might be time for the chapter to close. However it is just not easy to close a chapter. So in April we start election nominations which is looking bleak. As in Snooze's President report we have Debbie as pro tem Treasurer. She has a big job correcting what the last elected Treasurer messed up and with membership. In June she will be running for the state Treasurer so someone has to step up. While the turnout at the last meeting wasn't great, at least someone said they would be willing to consider the job if Deb showed them how now. So maybe that might work out. The only Board members who said they would stay are LB for VP and Nighthawk for Secretary. I think Snooze would like to step down as President but no one has shown any interest. I would like to drop some of my jobs. I do not mind do the website nor the newsletter, that was why I took the PR/Communication position as they are under that really. I like being the Delegate as like traveling to state meetings. That and doing the newsletter is why I do the Legislative. I'm tiring of the Safety even though there are fewer and fewer events to do. But nobody seems ready to do them. We get half the members at the meetings than we used to. Looking at ways to get the word out, where can we put out newsletters? Still trying to find a good bulk mailer even though I wonder how correct our lists are. So need to get more involvement to get things working.

Newsletter editor, Dan "Slo Motion" Henderson

Next Palm Beach Chapter Meeting

VFW POST 4143

3rd Sunday FEB. 18, 2018 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.**

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.