

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. PALM BEACH CHAPTER



THE **Chrome Chronicles**



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DUCATION**

**NEXT CHAPTER
MEETING
11:30 AM
3rd Sunday
Nov. 17**

**CHECK TWICE
FOR MOTORCYCLES**

**LET THOSE
WHO RIDE
DECIDE!**



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Our Email is palmbeach.abateflorida@gmail.com

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

ABATE - Palm Beach Chapter
P.O. Box 530944
Lake Park, FL 33403

DISCLAIMER

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ABATE of Florida Inc
Palm Beach Chapter
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Lake Park, FL 33403

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President's Message

Curtis Alva

This is a somber beginning to my report. We have lost 3 members of our community in space of several weeks, Chino, Dennis and Christina. All tragedies. All senseless. Three friends we shall ride with no more. I hate it. At the services, you can see it in people's eyes—the resignation to the fact that death is a part of the lifestyle. Well, I call “Bull Shit!” There is more that we all can do, individually, and in groups, to keep alive and on the road. Don't ride when you are impaired. Don't ride beyond your limits, or your bike's limits. Don't ride your bike like it was a cage. Cages are much more visible and have seat belts and air bags and such. Bikes are often overlooked—ride with that always in mind. Know your “get killed zone” and every time a cager is in it, protect your self.

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

And, don't make your death worse by dying without some plan to pay your funeral expenses. Don't make your family or Brothers have a to pass the hat. ABATE annual membership comes with a \$4000 in accidental death benefit, but it is not the only way to get funeral death benefits. There are lots of insurance companies. ABATE Membership is only \$20 per year. Join ABATE and renew every year, or get some other insurance and keep it in force.

On a lighter note, there are many great activities in November. The 2d annual Turkey Toy Run goes from Boca to Royal Palm, come with hot breakfast and you get to hand the toys to the kids and show them your bike. It's on Saturday, 11/23. Roscoe's Chili Challenge is 11/8-10, and the Flynn Wheels annual is 11/23. Hope to see you on the road.

For more toy runs, tow ABATE chapters have some for December 1. Southernmost in the Keys and Polk in central Florida. December 7 the Toys in The Sun Run is ON 11:30-11pm Pompano Bch Amphitheater 1806 NE 6th Street Pompano Beach, \$10 and unwrapped toy or \$20.



Find us on
Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/AbatePalmBeachChapter>

UPCOMING Event Schedule

Wed Nov. 6 - Gorilla Bob's Island Jack's Bike Night
Nov. 6 Vet Project at FL National Cemetery

Thurs. Nov. 7 - Abacoa Bike Night PB Harley 7-10, Black Piston's Open House, Howley's Bike Night
November 7 to 10 Roscoes' Chili Challenge Lakeland FL

SAT, NOV 9 AT 12 PM Static Rocks Palm Beach Harley Fall Festival Open House

Tuesday Nov. 12 - Lone Legion Open House

Wednesday Nov. 13- Gorilla Bob's Island Jack's Bike Night

Thursday Nov. 14 Vintage Iron Bike Night

Friday Nov. 15 AOA WPB Open House

SAT, NOV 16 Bikes & Coffee 2019 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM Burn Up Company 500 Palm St, W Palm Bch, FL
Sat. Nov. 16, 1 PM – 8 PM Santa Dave Fundraiser Party Demented Graphics 151 Fern St, Ste 2, Jupiter,
Nov 16 Hogs & Dogs Palm Beach Harley Noon to 5

3rd **Sunday Nov. 17 — Palm Beach Chapter Meeting ABATE of FL. Inc.** 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. Breakfast will be served 9:00 AM 'til Noon

Wed. Nov. 20 - Gorilla Bob's Island Jack's Bike Night, States MC Lake Worth Open House 3570
Boutwell Rd. Lake Worth

Saturday Nov. 23 Bikes and Coffee 9am to 1pm Burn Up Company 500 Palm. St., WPB

Tuesday Nov. 18 OR 25 Skulls MC Open House

Nov 21 PBH Flannels & Fat Boys Bike Night 6-9 Nov. 21 to 23 St. Pete Bikefest

Friday Nov. 22 AOA North Open House

Saturday Nov. 23 Turkey Toy Ride Boca Raton to Royal Palm Beach

Saturday Nov 23 Fly n Wheels WPB Annual

Wednesday Nov. 27- Gorilla Bob's Island Jack's Bike Night

Thurs. Nov. 28 - Turboz Custom Cycles Bike Night 7-10 PM Ralph's Stand Up Bar Jupiter

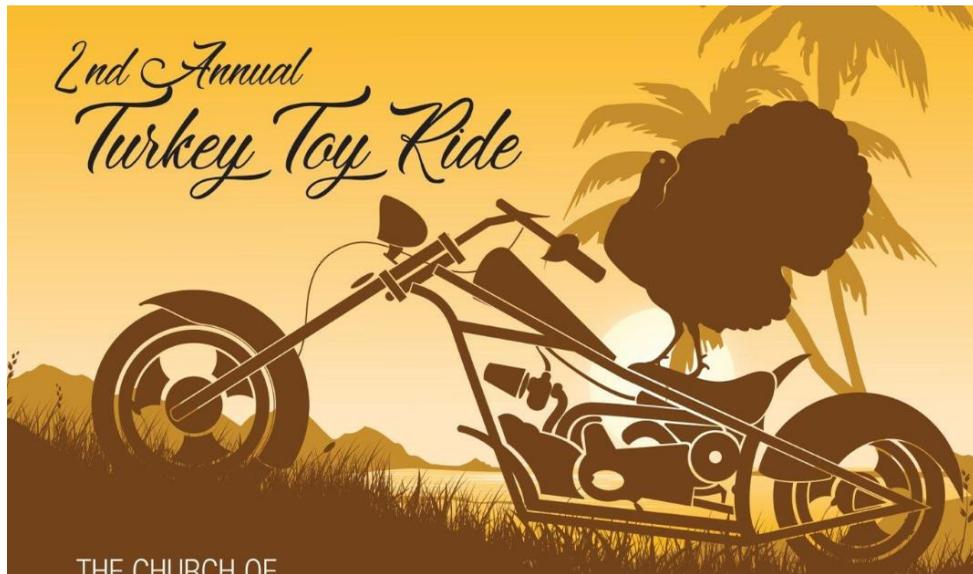
REMINDER: EVERY

Wed Nights Gorilla Motors/PBH Bike Night at Island Jack's, Pirate's Well Lake Park

Sat. night Fly n Wheels Open House

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

2nd Annual Turkey Toy Ride



THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

BRING A TOY OR GIFT CARD TO DONATE

Dedicated to Our Little Warriors | Benefitting Kids Cancer Foundation



DATE: Saturday, November 23rd, 2019 – 10am (Ride out at 11am)

START LOCATION: 1530 W. Camino Real | Boca Raton, FL 33486

TOY DROP-OFF: 246 Royal Palm Beach Blvd. | Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411



VIP in Attendance

**STAN
ELLSWORTH**

*Star of hit TV series
"American Ride"*

Free Hot Breakfast at 10 am, KU at 11 am. In this ride, you actually get to hand the toys to the children, and they watch and cheer as the parade of bikes pulls up in front of the Cancer Foundation, and then you get to watch the kids play with the toys. Starts at the church at 1530 W. Camino Real, Boca Raton, FL 33486, and ends at 246 Royal Palm Beach Blvd, Royal Palm Beach FL 33411

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.



Google online biker news

One of the biggest stories of the year was the truck that ran over a veterans MC in New Hampshire back in June and there were several stories on Google Alerts.

“Volodymyr Zhukovskyy was driving the truck that slammed into motorcyclists in June on a rural highway in Randolph, New Hampshire. The crash left seven bikers dead, and at least three injured. (Boston25News.com) The driver who is accused of causing a fiery crash between a pickup truck and a group of motorcycle riders has been indicted on 23 charges saying he negligently caused the deaths and was under the influence of drugs at the time of the incident. <https://www.fox13memphis.com/news/trending-now/truck-driver-indicted-on-23-counts-in-motorcyclist-deaths/1000021067>

The Truck driver has pleaded not guilty “ saying he negligently caused the deaths and was under the influence of one or more drugs at the time.”

<https://boston.cbslocal.com/2019/11/02/randolph-nh-motorcycle-crash-volodymyr-zhukovskyy-waives-arraignment/>

“A memorial featuring vibrant sculptures of the motorcycles ridden by the seven people killed in a deadly crash in Randolph, New Hampshire, in June was recently unveiled. The installation sits outside the Mount Jefferson View Motel, where the members of the Jarheads Motorcycle Club spent the night before they were killed in the crash involving a pickup truck with a trailer on U.S. 2 on June 21. The memorial was conceived and donated by Justin Spencer, a New Hampshire native who created the retail store, Chaos and Kindness, and the Las Vegas-based band, Recycled Percussion, the newspaper reports. It was built by Summit Metal

Fabricators in Plaistow. A memorial at the site of the crash is also anticipated to be built in the spring, the newspaper reports.”

<https://www.boston.com/news/local-news/2019/10/21/new-hampshire-motorcycle-crash-memorial>

“Survivor recounts harrowing N.H. motorcycle crash in first public remarks Joshua Morin, resting in his Dalton home, has had 20 surgeries on his left leg since the accident in June and expects to need more.” Read full article <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2019/10/20/survivor-recounts-harrowing-motorcycle-crash-first-public-remarks/NqVts6O7tHLz7LusiwDIK/story.html>

ELECTRIC NEWS

“\$16.5 Billion Electric Scooter and Motorcycle Markets - Global Outlook Report 2018-2027” -

View source version on businesswire.com: [https://www.businesswire.com/news/](https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191003005615/en/)

[home/20191003005615/en/](https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191003005615/en/)

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/16-5-billion-electric-scooter-145900011.html>

Harley’s LiveWire electric cycle ON or OFF? Stories of production halts and starts keep popping up. Seems was possible recharge dangers. Palm Beach Harley reports December 7 will be their demo day.

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/harley-davidson-halts-electric-motorcycle-production-11571073048>

Harley-Davidson Halts Production of Its Electric Motorcycle. What It Means for the Stock.

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/harley-davidson-resumes-production-deliveries-of-its-electric-motorcycle-11571428803>

“It’s no secret that we at Roadshow love electric vehicles, and that includes electric motorcycles. That’s why when we saw the E2 from Finnish motorcycle company RMK Vehicle, we started geeking out immediately. The RMK E2 truly sets itself apart in its design thanks mainly to the wild-looking hubless rear wheel. By hubless, we mean that the wheel is driven directly by the rim with no other final drive. This means there’s no chain or belt with their assorted sprockets and cogs. There’s no BMW- or Moto Guzzi-esque driveshaft and differential either.

<https://www.cnet.com/roadshow/news/rmk-e2-electric-motorcycle-hubless-eicma/>

<https://electrek.co/2019/10/18/rmk-e2-hubless-electric-motorcycle-eicma/>

The Juiced Scorpion blurs the line between e-bike and motorcycle The San Diego-based company is selling two versions: \$1,299 for a 750W motor, and \$1,999 for 1,000W motor San Diego-based Juiced Bikes is building on its reputation for nostalgia-driven electric bikes with the release of its latest model, the Scorpion. Much like the company’s Scrambler bikes, the Scorpion has a fat-tire, low-rider feel that is sure to appeal to fans of the 1970s-era taco minibikes. And with an approachable frame, affordable price, and absurdly powerful battery, the Scorpion could be a good entry-level e-bike for anyone who’s bored with traditional two-wheelers.

<https://www.theverge.com/2019/9/24/20875870/juiced-scorpion-ebike-price-specs-release>

There’s a new electric motorcycle debuting next month. And based on early specs it looks like the Ultraviolette F77 may give medium-sized gas sportbikes a run for their money! Ultraviolette is a Bengaluru, India-based manufacturer that has been working on its F77 elec-

tric motorcycle design for the past two years.

<https://electrek.co/2019/10/16/ultraviolette-f77-electric-motorcycle-rival-250cc/>

Tacita's T-Cruise Urban electric motorcycle is one of the few electric cruiser motorcycles on the horizon right now. And the company has just released its 2020 update to the T-Cruise Urban, as well as its pricing structure. Turin, Italy-based Tacita is perhaps better known for its line of off-road racing electric motorcycles. But the company expanded its lineup when it revealed the new T-Cruise Urban electric motorcycle. The bike maintains an old-school cruiser geometry with a modern twist — a completely electric drivetrain. But in keeping with that old school theme, the T-Cruise Urban also has another throwback: a manual gearbox.

<https://electrek.co/2019/09/27/tacita-t-cruise-electric-motorcycle-with-gearbox/>

Here's all the coolest electric motorcycles headed to the Milan Motorcycle Show

<https://electrek.co/2019/11/01/eicma-2019-milan-motorcycle-show-electric-motorcycle/>

There have been several posts on Aston Martin coming out with a motorcycle but few details. Aston announced the bike's debut on Thursday, which will happen just a couple of weeks from now on Nov. 5 at the International Motorcycle and Accessories Exhibition in Milan. The bike will be a collaboration between Aston and Brough Superior, a motorcycle company originally created in 1919. The announcement characterized it as the "first motorcycle produced by this new partnership," hinting that more could be on the way, and said it would be "strictly limited edition." [h stories of https://jalopnik.com/an-aston-martin-motorcycle-will-be-here-next-month-1839328499](https://jalopnik.com/an-aston-martin-motorcycle-will-be-here-next-month-1839328499) <https://carbuzz.com/news/an-aston-martin-motorcycle-is-coming>

Indian Motorcycle Delivers Most Powerful Engine in Its Class With New PowerPlus – a New Level of V-Twin Performance From America's First Motorcycle Company

Liquid-Cooled 108 Cubic Inch Motor delivering 122 Horsepower and 128 ft-lbs. of Torque to Power New Indian Challenger

The PowerPlus is an all-new 108 cubic inch, liquid-cooled, V-twin engine delivering a class-leading 122 horsepower and 128 ft-lbs. of torque and establishes a dramatically new standard for V-twin performance. (Photo: Business Wire)

The PowerPlus is an all-new 108 cubic inch, liquid-cooled, V-twin engine delivering a class-leading 122 horsepower and 128 ft-lbs. of torque and establishes a dramatically new standard for V-twin performance. (Photo: Business Wire)

October 22, 2019 11:00 AM Eastern Daylight Time

MINNEAPOLIS--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Indian Motorcycle, America's First Motorcycle Company, raised the bar for American motorcycles today with the announcement of its most powerful engine to date, the PowerPlus. The all-new 108 cubic inch, liquid-cooled, V-twin engine delivers a class-leading 122 horsepower and 128 ft-lbs. of torque and establishes a dramatically new standard for V-twin performance.

"Countless hours were spent in design, development and testing to ensure this is the best liquid-cooled V-twin ever developed, and I could not be prouder of our team and this incredible motor."

The PowerPlus will serve as the heart of the new Indian Challenger, an all-new, fixed-

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issue

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

ABATE - Palm Beach Chapter
P.O. Box 530944
Lake Park, FL 33403

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.

fairing bagger that utilizes Indian Motorcycle's state-of-the-art technology to become the highest-performing American V-twin ever developed. The new engine's name is a nod to Indian Motorcycle's iconic history, paying homage to the Indian PowerPlus motorcycle produced from 1916 to 1924.

"We challenge our engineers with the notion that anything less than best-in-class design and performance will simply not get it done, and it's clear with this new engine that they have delivered on that high standard," said Steve Menneto, Indian Motorcycle President. "Countless hours were spent in design, development and testing to ensure this is the best liquid-cooled V-twin ever developed, and I could not be prouder of our team and this incredible motor."

The PowerPlus adopts several design and performance features from the liquid-cooled 1,133 cc Indian Scout engine, including an overhead camshaft design utilizing four valves per cylinder. But comparisons end there. The PowerPlus was developed with a big-piston, big-torque mindset with an end game of maximum power delivery across the entire curve.

The all-new powertrain features a six-speed transmission with true overdrive, assist clutch to reduce clutch effort, and three ride modes that allow riders to tailor throttle mapping to their riding preferences. Advanced technology also includes hydraulic valve lash adjusters and hydraulic camshaft chain tensioners for ease of maintenance and reliability.

The PowerPlus was tested, refined and proven by one of the industry's most rigorous development and testing programs, accumulating nearly one million miles of simulated testing, including state-of-the-art dyno testing, and more than 250,000 on-road miles.

"You simply cannot deliver the ultimate bagger without an engine that stands head and shoulders above anything else in its class, and that was the motivation behind the PowerPlus," said John Callahan, Indian Motorcycle Vice President, Engineering. "We developed the most sophisticated V-twin powerplant in the industry, and then we spent month after month, hour upon hour, putting it through the most intense paces to ensure it could take whatever we threw at it. The end result is something truly special."



Indian Motorcycle PowerPlus Engine Specifications:

Engine Displacement: 108 cubic inches (1,769 cc)

Power: 122 hp at 5,500 RPM

Torque: 128 ft-lbs at 3,800 RPM

Maximum Engine Speed: 6,500 RPM

Architecture: 60-degree V-twin, liquid-cooled powerplant

Crankcase: Unit design featuring a high capacity semi-dry sump oil system

Timing System: Overhead camshafts and four valves per cylinder

Fuel System: Electronic fuel injection. 52mm dual bore throttle bodies

Compression Ratio: 11:1

Transmission: Six-speed with true overdrive, constant mesh

Clutch: Assist clutch

The PowerPlus will be built in Osceola, Wisconsin

with final motorcycle assembly taking place in Indian Motorcycle's production facility in Spirit Lake, Iowa. Riders can learn more at IndianMotorcycle.com and follow along on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Indian Motorcycle is America's first motorcycle company. Founded in 1901, Indian Motorcycle has won the hearts of motorcyclists around the world and earned distinction as one of America's most legendary and iconic brands through unrivaled racing dominance, engineering prowess and countless innovations and industry firsts. Today that heritage and passion is reignited under new brand stewardship. To learn more, please visit www.indianmotorcycle.com.

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Contacts Bradley Hartman The Brand Amp bradley@thebrandamp.com 831-566-7970
<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20191022005348/en/Indian-Motorcycle-Delivers-Powerful-Engine-Class-New>

Indian PowerPlus Is Here John Burns October 22, 2019

What's old is new again in the American V-twin wars. The original Indian PowerPlus ran from 1916 to 1924. The new PowerPlus isn't a bike at all; it's an engine – an all-new 108-cubic inch (1769 cc) liquid-cooled 60-degree V-twin, and it'll be powering a new fixed-fairing bagger called Challenger, "the highest-performing American V-twin ever developed," says Indian. We've probably already seen the bike due to a leaker! at a dealer meeting, and our in-house eye that never sleeps, Dennis Chung (see below Indian's press release). Matter of fact, DC already uncovered even more information, last April, about the new engine than is contained in Indian's official release (also see below), which just flew in over the transom.

We're looking at four valves per cylinder activated by a single overhead cam via roller rockers, using hydraulic lifters – as in, no pesky valve adjustments ever.

One-hundred and 20-plus pound-feet of torque is the minimum daily requirement in the class. H-D rates the new Road Glide's Twin-cooled Milwaukee 8 114 at 122 lb-ft, and never brings up horsepower. In our Big Dam Shootout last year, an M8 107 made 78.1 horses at 4800 rpm, and 102 lb-ft torque at 2900 rpm (rear-tire dyno numbers).

In the same comparison, the Yamaha Eluder's biggest-in-class 1854 cc Twin pumped out 106 lb-ft at just 2800 rpm – but only 75 horses at 4300 rpm. We dug the Eluder a lot, but we kept banging into the rev limiter. Is that all there is, my friend?

In contrast to those very nice powerplants, the new PowerPlus V-twin seems to be playing a different game: Its 128 lb-ft of torque is said to occur at 3800 rpm, and its horsepower peak – 122 claimed – is way up at 5500 rpm. Even if those peak hp and torque claims wind up being 10% higher than what our dyno will read (typically the case), we're still looking at an Indian engine that's shooting par in the torque department, but blows the other monster V-Twins out of the water in horsepower terms.

Furthermore, Indian says there's another 1000 rpm available in the future, as max safe rpm is 6500. It's about time somebody built a big V-twin that revs a little, and may even at some point give the BMW K1600B that won last year's Big Dam Shootout a run for its money.

We'll be able to reveal much more about all of it one week from today.

INDIAN MOTORCYCLE DELIVERS MOST POWERFUL ENGINE IN ITS CLASS WITH NEW

POWERPLUS – A NEW LEVEL OF V-TWIN PERFORMANCE FROM AMERICA’S FIRST MOTORCYCLE COMPANY Liquid-Cooled 108 Cubic Inch Motor delivering 122 Horsepower and 128 ft-lbs. of Torque to Power New Indian Challenger

MINNEAPOLIS (OCTOBER 22, 2019) – Indian Motorcycle, America’s First Motorcycle Company, raised the bar for American motorcycles today with the announcement of its most powerful engine to date, the PowerPlus. The all-new 108 cubic inch, liquid-cooled, V-twin engine delivers a class-leading 122 horsepower and 128 ft-lbs. of torque and establishes a dramatically new standard for V-twin performance.

The PowerPlus will serve as the heart of the new Indian Challenger, an all-new, fixed-fairing bagger that utilizes Indian Motorcycle’s state-of-the-art technology to become the highest-performing American V-twin ever developed. The new engine’s name is a nod to Indian Motorcycle’s iconic history, paying homage to the Indian PowerPlus motorcycle produced from 1916 to 1924.

“We challenge our engineers with the notion that anything less than best-in-class design and performance will simply not get it done, and it’s clear with this new engine that they have delivered on that high standard,” said Steve Menneto, Indian Motorcycle President. “Countless hours were spent in design, development and testing to ensure this is the best liquid-cooled V-twin ever developed, and I could not be prouder of our team and this incredible motor.”

The PowerPlus adopts several design and performance features from the liquid-cooled 1,133 cc Indian Scout engine, including an overhead camshaft design utilizing four valves per cylinder. But comparisons end there. The PowerPlus was developed with a big-piston, big-torque mindset with an end game of maximum power delivery across the entire curve.

The all-new powertrain features a six-speed transmission with true overdrive, assist clutch to reduce clutch effort, and three ride modes that allow riders to tailor throttle mapping to their riding preferences. Advanced technology also includes hydraulic valve lash adjusters and hydraulic camshaft chain tensioners for ease of maintenance and reliability.

The PowerPlus was tested, refined and proven by one of the industry’s most rigorous development and testing programs, accumulating nearly one million miles of simulated testing, including state-of-the-art dyno testing, and more than 250,000 on-road miles.

“You simply cannot deliver the ultimate bagger without an engine that stands head and shoulders above anything else in its class, and that was the motivation behind the PowerPlus,” said John Callahan, Indian Motorcycle Vice President, Engineering. “We developed the most sophisticated V-twin powerplant in the industry, and then we spent month after month, hour upon hour, putting it through the most intense paces to ensure it could take whatever we threw at it. The end result is something truly special.”

The PowerPlus will be built in Osceola, Wisconsin with final motorcycle assembly taking place in Indian Motorcycle’s production facility in Spirit Lake, Iowa. Riders can learn more at IndianMotorcycle.com and follow along on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

<https://www.motorcycle.com/manufacture/indian/indian-powerplus-is-here.html>

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.

Motorcycle fatalities decline by 4.7% in 2018

Earlier this week, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) released the 2018 motor vehicle fatality report. For the second year in a row, less people lost their lives on the roads across the country. As you can see in the chart below, motorcycle fatalities declined in 4.7% from 2017 to 2018 while overall motor vehicle crashes were reduced by 2.4% while vehicle miles traveled (VMT) also increased.

Table 1

Occupants and Nonoccupants Killed in Traffic Crashes, 2017-2018

Description	2017	2018	Change	% Ch
Total*	37,473	36,560	-913	-2.4
Occupants				
Passenger Vehicles	23,663	22,697	-966	-4.1
Passenger Cars	13,477	12,775	-702	-5.2
Light Trucks	10,186	9,922	-264	-2.6
Large Trucks	878	885	+7	+0.8
Motorcycles	5,229	4,985	-244	-4.7
Nonoccupants				
Pedestrians	6,075	6,283	+208	+3.4
Pedalcyclists	806	857	+51	+6.3
Other/Unknown	236	214	-22	-9.3

Source: FARS 2017 Final File, 2018 ARF

*Total includes occupants of buses and occupants of other/unknown vehicles not shown in table.

Does that mean motorcyclists are doing better than the other motor vehicles on the road? Unfortunately, we still represented 14% of traffic fatalities in 2018 according to the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) data, “New vehicles are safer than older ones, and when crashes occur, more new vehicles are equipped with advanced technologies that prevent or reduce the severity of crashes,” NHTSA Acting Administrator James Owens said in the statement.

You can read the full NHTSA 2018 Fatality Report, [2018 Crash Stats.pdf](#)

MRF attends bicameral Autonomous Vehicle Legislation Meeting

During the August recess, the Motorcycle Riders Foundation partnered with Harley Davidson (H-D) and

the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) to send a joint letter outlining the priorities of the motorcycle lobbying community for any future autonomous vehicle (AV) legislation to both the minority and majority staff of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. This week, the MRF, H-D and the AMA was invited to meet to further discuss the concerns and priorities of motorcyclists for any AV legislation. As you may remember during the 115th Congress, the House and Senate took two different approaches writing legislation and neither of those bills were signed into law. While the House and Senate committees are in the infancy stages of writing legislation, we are encouraged by the bicameral effort on future legislation and remain optimistic that both chambers can introduce the same legislation. The AV working group of congressional staffers spearheading this effort do not have any real time line when we may see any draft legislation out of their committees as they are still bringing in the over 100 stakeholder groups that submitted their AV priorities at the end of summer. As always, we will keep our ear to the ground and continue to engage the appropriate congressional staff as they continue through the process to draft this necessary and comprehensive legislation to help keep not only motorcyclists but all motorists safe on our roads.

You can read our specific recommendations from the August letter below:

Rulemaking – Set new standards specific to seeing, detecting and properly reacting to motorcycles;

Testing – Ensure motorcycles are part of all testing and development procedures;

Advisory committees – Public user advisory committees should include a representative from the motorcycle community and a motorcycle manufacturer;

Consumer education – Require a public, easily accessible and searchable database where consumers can look up important safety information such as the limitations and capabilities of different products offered by AV manufacturers or service providers, as well as clarifications for marketing terms such as auto pilot, super cruise, etc. For example, the database should inform consumers what each relevant automakers' systems Auto Pilot can and cannot do in terms of the driving task;

Safety Evaluation Reports – AV manufacturers must be required to detail and make public how their vehicles identify motorcycles among other road users. Manufacturers must also include human error analysis in safety reports; and

Crash data/reporting – AV manufacturers must report incidents between AVs and motorcycles just as they would incidents between AVs and other road users. Manufacturers must also include human error analysis in crash data and reporting.

Southbound and Down to the 2019 Mid-South M.I.L.E. conference

I'm off to Shreveport, Louisiana for the 28th Annual Mid-South M.I.L.E. (Motorcyclists Improving Legislative Effectiveness) to speak to the attendees from Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas. If you were at MOTM 2019, you probably heard "Brick" Lindsey with ABATE of Louisiana plug that they were having bacon wrapped alligator at the event and I eagerly await to report back to you next week about my first alligator experience.

Standing Update: We are currently at 108 cosponsors from 38 states and one territory for H. Res 255, the motorcycle profiling resolution. An additional 8 new cosponsors have joined since our last update including our first member from Virginia and Indiana. The map below shows which states have at least one lawmaker signed on as a cosponsor. Is your state not filled in yet? Check with the D.C. team about how we can work together to secure cosponsors from your state.

Click [HERE](#) to see if your member has signed on to H. Res 255.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Mon Dinner 6:30 States MC Pompano Clubhouse
3rd or 4th Mon Skulls MC Open House LLB clubhouse

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

3rd Wed States MC Lake Worth Open House 8pm

Wed Island Jack's Bike Night with Gorilla Motors

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

Wed Pirates Well Bike Night 9477 Alt. A1A Lake Park

Last Wed Gatti's Garage Bike Night 130 South H St Lake Worth

Usually 1st Thurs Black Pistons MC WPB Open House

1st Thurs PBH Abacoa Bike Night

1st Thurs. Howley's Bike Night 4700 S Dixie WPB

2nd Thurs TBS Bike Night Tequesta

3rd Thurs Treasure Coast Harley Bike Night

Last Thurs Turboz/Ralph's Bike Night Jupiter

1st Fri Enforcers MC Party
Fri Twice a Month AOA MC WPB Open Houses

SAT HOG Morning Palm Beach Harley and often other events and bikini bike washes Grill Days
SAT night Fly n Wheels Open House

States MC Lake Worth
Open House
Wed
7pm-12am
Food is Always Complimentary
 Independent Bikers and Friends are Welcomed
 3570 Boutwell Rd. Lake Worth

BIKE NIGHT & Craft Beers
 Last Wednesday of Each Month
6pm-10pm
 BEER SPECIALS • FOOD TRUCK
 130 South H St Lake Worth

LOST WEEKENDS VINTAGE MOTORCYCLE NIGHTS
 TUNE UP THESE 25 YEAR OR OLDER MOTOS & RIDE THEM OUT EACH 2ND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH TO LOST WEEKENDS WPB 6-10PM
 FREE PARKING
 STREET FOOD
 BIKERS TRIPS
 VINTAGE TIRE GAMES
 COCKTAILS
 SPONSORED BY:
 ACES HIGH
 TREASURE COAST HARLEY MOTORCYCLE
 POWERSPORTS

BIKE NIGHT
 HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTOR COMPANY
 GORILLA MOTORS
WED. 6-9PM
\$0.75 WINGS 6PM-10PM
\$2 DRAFTS 10PM-12AM
\$2.75 BOTTLES 6PM-10PM
\$3 JACK DANIELS 6PM-10PM
 BUD LIGHT, MILLER LIGHT, COORS LIGHT, BUDWEISER

Pirates Well Restaurant and Bar
WEDNESDAY, 7-11
 ALL YOU CAN EAT WINGS! \$3 CAPTAIN • \$4 TIGER • \$7 DOMESTIC PITCHERS & \$12 DOMESTIC BUCKETS (6)
RAFFLES PRIZES:
 - 2 \$25.00 PIRATES WELL GIFT CARDS
Bike Night EVERY WEDNESDAY
 ALL MOTORCYCLES WELCOME - KID FRIENDLY - RUDE BWOY RUM TASTING! 7-9PM
 SPONSORED BY: PS POWERSPORTS
 Pirates Well 9477 Alt. A1A Lake Park, FL 33403
 www.pirateswell.com

HOGS & DOGS

LONE LEGION MA BROTHERHOOD
OPEN HOUSE TUESDAY
COME JOIN US FOR A GREAT EVENING!
HOURS: 7:30PM TILL MIDNIGHT
 MUSIC, FOOD, BEVERAGES, POOL, DARTS
 2950 COMMERCE PARK DR. UNIT F5 BOYNTON BEACH, FL
 CONTACT BUTTER BEAN 561-704-5416
 NO WEAPONS, DRUGS OR ATTITUDES
 WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ENTRY

Black Pistons MC
WEST PALM BEACH
 Come join us for our open house on Thurs. Nov. 7th, 2019
7:30 pm-?
 Being held @ Clubhouse
 5720 Greenwood Ave. West Palm Beach
NO Guns, No Drugs, No Attitudes "EXCEPT OURS"
 Black Pistons MC logo

TURBOZ BIKE NIGHT AT RALPH'S STAND-UP BAR
 CENTER STREET, JUPITER FULL-BAR
LAST THURSDAY 7-10PM LIVE MUSIC

**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 break-
fast and the meeting

3rd Sunday Nov 17
2nd Sunday Dec. 8
3rd Sunday Jan. 19

ABACOA BIKE NIGHT
PALM BEACH
• 1ST THURSDAY EVERY MONTH, 7-10PM
• LIVE BAND AT AMPITHEATER
• DRINK SPECIALS @ ALL BARS
• RAFFLES BY PALM BEACH HARLEY
• FUN GAMES AT THE EVENT

HOG MORNING
EVERY SATURDAY MORNING
FREE COFFEE & DONUTS
FROM SAM
'TIL THE LAST SPRINKLE

ROSCOE'S CHILI CHALLENGE
Nov. 7th - 10th, 2019

**SOUTH FLORIDA
PRESIDENTS
COUNCIL EVENTS**

NOVEMBER

- 2-Sat Heathens MC - ANNUAL
- 9-Sat USMVMC CH 1 - ANNUAL
- 11th-Mon Veterans Day
- 23-Sat Leathernecks MC Annual
- 28th-Thurs Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

- 7-Sat SFPC Toys in the Sun Run
- 4th-Sat ALIGATOR ALLEY TOY RUN BIKE DRAWING
- 14th-Sat HERMANDAD MC - ALFREDO MEMORIAL AND TOY RUN
- 14-Sat USMVMC Wreaths Across AMERICA
- 15-Sun WINGS OF GOLD MC MIAMI - TOY RUN
- 25th-Wed Christmas Day

SKULLS DE FIERRO M/C

Open House



Food, Drinks, Brotherhood
7:30p.m til-? @

2950 Commerce Park Dr.
Boynton Beach, FL 33426

No Attitudes, No Problems.

VINTAGE IRON CLUB
the coming of... the POLLUTION MONSTERS!
the ecolohouls of doom!

ALL BIKES WELCOME

FREE PARKING!!
STREET TACOS!!
DRINK SPECIALS!!

VINTAGE MOTORCYCLE NIGHTS WITH LOST WEEKENDS & VINTAGE IRON CLUB!!!
2ND THURS OF THE MONTH 6-10PM
526 CLEMATIS ST

HOWLEY'S PRESENTS
BLACK SHEEP
MOTOR COMPANY
Ride Fast. Take Chances.
BLACK SHEEP BIKE NIGHT
FIRST THURSDAY, 6PM - 10PM

BURN UP COMPANY
ACES HIGH
GORILLA
MOTORS

RAFFLES AND DOOR PRIZES
COME ON YOUR MOTORCYCLE AND RECEIVE
A SOUVENIR CUP & DISCOUNT ON YOUR CHECK

Food & Drink Specials
4700 S. DIXIE HWY - HOWLEYSWPB.COM

November 2019

Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1 Lone Star Rally	2 Lone Star Rally Fly n Wheels Open House
	4	5	6 Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights	7 Palm Beach Harley Bike Night Abacoa Black Pistons Open House Howley's Bike Night	8 7th to 10th Roscoe's Chili Challenge	9 PB Harley Fall Festival Fly n Wheels Open House Roscoe's Chili Challenge
10 Roscoe's Chili Challenge	11	12 Lone Legion Open House	13 Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights	14 Vintage Iron Bike Night	15 AOA WPB Open House	16 Fly n Wheels Open House Santa Dave Fundraiser Burn Up Bikes & Coffee
17 ABATE PB Chapter Meeting	18	19	20 States LW Open House Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Bike Night s St Pete Bch Bikefest	21 St Pete Bch Bikefest PB Harley Flannels & Fat Boys Bike Night	22 St Pete Bch Bikefest AOA North Open House	23 Fly n Wheels ANNUAL St Pete Bch Bikefest Turkey Toy Run Boca- RPB TCH Grill
24	25	26 Skulls @LL Open House	27 Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights	28 Turboz/ Ralph's Bike Night	29	30 Fly n Wheels Open House High Seas Rally to 7th

December 2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>1 Southernmost ABATE Keys Toy Run Polk ABATE Toy Run</p>	<p>2 Skulls @LL Open House</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights</p>	<p>5 Palm Beach Harley Bike Night Abacoa Black Pistons Open House Howley's Bike Night</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 Fly n Wheels Open House</p>
<p>8 ABATE PB Chapter Meeting</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 Lone Legion Open House</p>	<p>11 Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights</p>	<p>12 Vintage Iron Bike Night</p>	<p>13 AOA WPB Open House</p>	<p>14 Fly n Wheels Open House ABATE FL State Meeting</p>
<p>15 ABATE PB Annual at Palm Beach Harley</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 States LW Open House Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 AOA North Open House</p>	<p>21 Fly n Wheels Open House</p>
<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 Gorilla Bob/ Island Jack's Pirate's Well Lake Park Bike Nights</p>	<p>26 Turboz/ Ralph's Bike Night</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Fly n Wheels Open House</p>
<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>				

DELEGATE REPORT

. Well last month our state meeting was held by our Gulf Coast chapter in Pensacola. So a couple of us and one member of the Southeast chapter decided we would ride up to the meeting. I'm glad we did what a blast! Even the weather cooperated with us for the most part.

We talked about our accidental death and dismemberment insurance policies that we all have as Abate members. You must designate a beneficiary for them to receive the 4,000.00 benefit. You need to fill out a card with your info and beneficiary !! And send it to Abate of Florida state office in Deland. P.O. box 2520 Deland, Florida 32721-2520 If you do not have a beneficiary the money will go to your estate in other words probate court. I recommend you fill one out as soon as possible. If you need help doing this come to our next meeting or get in touch with one of your board members as soon as possible.

In other news most new members for July went to Gulf Coast chapter they also had most new members for August too. Highest % of growth for July went to Vintage chapter and for August it was Forest chapter.

As far as legislative new there are several bills filed regarding fire-arms, concealed weapons, and felons right to vote. We are watching these and other bills and will keep you informed as to their outcomes.

As always Ride Safe Ride Smart !! SNOOZE

The cruise to the Bahamas has increased in price after Dorian so the state is looking into Cozumel as new destination. At our meeting it was suggested that the best way to support the Bahamas would still be to go as the south part wasn't as affected. Since all chambers are losing members, I thought that having a higher price for non-members might be a good way to get people to join. There have been several changes in the board. All the rifle tickets and money need to be turned in at December State meeting. A selling point is that there is a movement for all gun ban so might be last chance to own one. This might effect any future drawings but we were asked to take back to chapter to vote on it. Businesses can "donate" to ABATE by called it an advertisement so a way to get event sponsors.

Need to get a good turnout for the Tallahassee ride in February. A State Party with Georgia and Alabama Abates is being looked into. Hat was passed to help State purchase supplies, \$240 was collected (Snooze and I each put in \$20). Legal: do not open saddlebags with police around if there is something you don't want them to see. Best to always carry your paperwork on your body. Next NCOM conference will be Mothers day in May in Indianapolis. The one in Orlando went well. Products is looking into a coin to honor the 20th Anniversary of the Helmet Choice passing. Will be Bronze and/or Silver with possible numbered.

STATE MEETINGS Host Chapter & Location

Dec. 14 State Ocala
2020 State Meetings

Feb. 9 Monticello

Feb.10 Ride to Capital
Tallahassee Host State

April 11 Southwest

June 13 Vintage

August 8 Lake

Oct. 10 Gulf Coast

Dec. 12 Forest

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

Danny Palm

Safety training classes are being set up for more classroom presentations. At present our Chapter only has Hamish and Slo Mo trained. I am going to see what it takes to get us to talk with the school board. A mandatory drivers education was presented to legislators and received favorable options. Funding could be from traffic fines and grants from the Slossberg Fund. The Keys Southernmost chapter was able to get local funding for their safety program so we need to see if similar forms are available in our area.

If a bill at least passes one subcommittee, even if it dies it can become an amendment to be passed. That is why it is so important to talk with the legislators so it will get that far State VP Scribe has given guidelines in his legislative emails so good to subscribe and do. I've added the latest to our Facebook page so I hope you check it and do it

Get Involved Dan "Slo Motion" Henderson



ABATE of Florida, Inc.
23rd ANNUAL FREEDOM RIGHT RIDE

Do you believe in your rights?
 Do you want to keep your rights?
 Will you go to Tallahassee to fight for your rights?

RIDE TO THE STATE CAPITOL MONDAY, February 10, 2020

For more information: ABATE of Florida Inc 1-386-943-9610

"We in America do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate." ~ Thomas Jefferson

Kickstands up at 9:00am - Behind the Super 8 in Monticello

Super 8 Monticello
 140 Pafford Road
 Monticello, FL 32336
 850-997-8888



Membership & Safety Information Available
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ABATE of Florida, Inc.
STATE MEETING
 Saturday December 14, 2019

Board Meeting Starts @ 12:00PM
Delegate's Meeting Starts @ 2:00 PM

Meetings will be held @ VFW Post 4209
 4805 NE 36th Ave Ocala, FL 34479



- Directions from Equus Inn
- Head north
- Turn left toward SW College Rd
- Turn right onto SW College Rd
- Use the left 2 lanes to turn left onto S Pine Ave
- Use the right lane to turn right onto NW 10th St/Bonnie Heath Blvd
- Turn left onto NE 36th Ave
- Turn right onto NE 47th Pl
- Arrive at location: 4805 NE 36th Ave VFW POST 4209

Question ABATE of Florida Inc. 1-386-943-9610

Quality Inn/Equus Inn Hotel
 3434 SW College Rd, Ocala, FL 34474 For Reservations Call:(352-854-5633)

For further information contact: ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. State Office (386) 943-9610
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ABATE of Florida, Inc.

23rd ANNUAL FREEDOM RIGHT MEETING

For More Information ABATE of Florida Inc 1-386-943-9610

State Meeting Sunday, February 9, 2020 at 2:00pm
 State Board Meeting Sunday, February 9 at Noon
 American Legion Hall - 1065 S. Water St., Monticello, FL 32344
 Directions to Hall: Go 2 blocks west of the Opera House on US 90, then turn west on Water Street. Go 1/2 mile to the Legion Hall

"We in America do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate." ~ Thomas Jefferson

Will you go to Tallahassee to fight for your rights?
 Ride to the Capitol Monday, February 10, 2020
 Kickstands up at 9:00am - Behind the Super 8 in Monticello

Super 8 Monticello: 140 Pafford Rd., Monticello, FL 32336. Phone: 850-997-8888
 Take I-10 to Exit 225 South on US 19. The hotel is located on the West side.

Days Inn Monticello: 44 Woodworth Dr., Monticello, FL 32336. Phone: 850-997-5988. Take I-10 to Exit 225 South on US 19. The hotel is located on the East side.



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

Membership & Safety Information Available
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.....
 : [Precinct Finder \(https://www.pbcelections.org/PrecinctFinder.aspx\)](https://www.pbcelections.org/PrecinctFinder.aspx) Palm
 : Beach Elections Site - put in your address and get ALL your Election
 : Information and look under My Districts for your representatives.
 : In these sidebars Underlined District # , names link in the online version.
 :

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

DAN "SLOW-MOTION" HENDERSON



PALM BEACH Co. FL House of Representatives

D81 Tina Scott Polsky (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 Garden

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

D87 David Silvers (D)
850-717-5085 Tallahassee
561-352-4824 West Palm Beach

D88 Al Jacquet (D)
850-717-5088 Tallahassee
561-650-6846 West Palm Bch

D89 Mike Caruso (R)
850-717-5089 Tallahassee
561-750-2396 Boca Raton

D90 Joseph A. Casello (D)
850-717-5090 Tallahassee
561-374-7850 Boynton Bch

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

If a bill at least passes one subcommittee, even if it dies, it can become an amendment and be passed with a bill. That is why it is so important to talk with the legislators and committees so it will get that far. State VP Scribe has given guidelines in his legislative emails so good to subscribe for them. I've added the latest to our Facebook page so I hope you check it and do it.

HB 2007 Abate of Florida Inc. Motorcycle Awareness Program is on agenda 11/6 Transportation & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee—directions to help it on our Facebook page. This is to fund our program.

SB 308 Traffic Offenses; Citing this act as the "Vulnerable Road User Act"; providing criminal penalties for a person who commits a moving violation that causes serious bodily injury to, or causes the death of, a vulnerable road user.

HB 249 Use of Wireless Communications Devices While Driving: Revises short title & legislative intent; prohibits operation of motor vehicle while holding or touching wireless communications device; provides exceptions; revises circumstances under which certain information may be admissible as evidence in proceeding to determine whether violation has been committed; revises procedures for collection & reporting by DHSMV of information recorded on citation; conforms provisions relating to use of wireless communications devices in school & work zones. Now in Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee.

Palm Beach County FL Senators

D25 Gayle Harrell (R)
850-487-5025 Tallahassee
772-221-4019 Stuart

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 Lori Berman (D)
850-487-5031 Tallahassee
561-292-6014 Boynton

FEDERAL U.S. Senators

[Marco Rubio](#)
[Rick Scott](#)

U.S. HOUSE

District 18
[Brian Mast \(R\)](#)

District 20
[Alcee Hastings](#)

District 21
[Lois Frankel](#)

District 22
[Ted Deutch](#)

Oct. 5. I read a Palm Beach Post article rating our county legislators on the Sunshine Scorecard on how they voted on critical government openness bills. Lawmakers have added exemptions to Florida's public records every year. In all the state the common grade was C-, nobody earned an A. Boynton Beach's Lor Bermen earned the county's highest grade at B-. Boca's Kevin Radar was also a strong proponent of open government. New lawmakers rated: Rep. Joseph Casello D-; Rep. Tina Polsky C+; and Michael Carsuso D+. None of the returning lawmakers improved their last year's grade: Rep. Rick Roth C-; C went to Kevin Rader, Al Jacquet, MaryLynn Magar, Emily Slosberg, Matt Willhite, and David Silvers. Bobby Powell got an F for the second year.

HOUSE SETS NOVEMBER COMMITTEE MEETINGS October 25, NSF Staff

House committees are slated to meet over two weeks in November, with the Veterans Day holiday weekend sandwiched in between the meetings. The House will meet from Nov. 5 through Nov. 7 and then return to meet from Nov. 12 through Nov. 14, according to schedules posted on the House website. Committees are taking up issues in preparation for the 2020 legislative session, which starts Jan. 14. The House is scheduled Nov. 5 and Nov. 12 to hold a series of meetings of major policy committees, including the Judiciary Committee, the Education Committee, the Health & Human Services Committee, the Commerce Committee, the State Affairs Committee and the Ways and Means Committee. The weeks also will include dozens of subcommittee meetings.

SENATE SETS NOVEMBER SCHEDULES October 24, NSF Staff

Continuing to prepare for the 2020 legislative session, the Florida Senate has set aside seven days for committee meetings in November. The first set of meetings is scheduled to start Nov. 4 and continue through Nov. 7. That will include budget subcommittees meeting Nov. 6 and the full Appropriations Committee slated to meet Nov. 7. The Senate also will hold a set of committee meetings from Nov. 12 through Nov. 14. That will include 10 policy committees --- such as the Health Policy Committee, the Judiciary Committee and the Education Committee --- meeting on Nov. 12. Policy committees and budget subcommittees will meet on Nov. 13, with the Appropriations Committee scheduled for Nov. 14. The 2020 session will start Jan. 14.

The House version of the Vulnerable Road Users bill has been filed.

HB 455 - Traffic Offenses General Bill by McClain

Traffic Offenses: Provides criminal penalties for person who commits moving violation that causes serious bodily injury to or death of vulnerable road user; requires person to pay specified fine, serve minimum period of house arrest, & attend driver improvement course; requires court to revoke person's driver license for minimum specified period; defines "vulnerable road user."

Oct 15 **SB 308 Traffic Offenses** by Sen. Baxley, has been assigned to it's committees. They are listed below: Infrastructure and Security, Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development Appropriations

NEXT SENATE PREZ, SIMPSON PUTS FOCUS ON BUSINESSES, WATER, CHILDREN

October 15, 2019 Ana Ceballos

TALLAHASSEE --- Shortly after Trilby Republican Wilton Simpson was formally elected Tuesday as Florida's next Senate president, he characterized himself as a farmer and an entrepreneur --- and not a politician.

And with that introduction, the 53-year-old owner of an egg farm and an environmental-remediation company vowed to tackle Florida's economy with "common-sense, fiscally conservative principles" and to foster a business-friendly environment.

"If you are a Florida business, we will do all we can to keep you here," Simpson said. "If you are a business located in a high-tax, over-regulated, unwelcoming state --- consider moving to Florida where we

believe the American Dream and the Florida Dream are one in the same.”

Simpson will succeed President Bill Galvano, R-Bradenton, after the November 2020 elections and will hold one of the most powerful political jobs in Florida. When he takes over the chamber, he will also oversee the Senate’s redistricting efforts following the 2020 Census.

Other issues that Simpson said he wants to tackle between 2020 and 2022 will deal with improving the quality of Florida’s water resources and helping children who are “stuck in the foster care system” and at-risk youth.

One thing he would like to see fixed in the foster care system is cutting down the waiting time for qualified parents to adopt children. He also wants to keep children from bouncing from foster home to foster home.

While Simpson recognized fixing the problems in the system are likely to be costly, he told reporters on Tuesday, it would be “more expensive not to do it.”

To accomplish those goals, he hopes to partner with First Lady Casey DeSantis, who is one of the top advisers to her husband, Gov. Ron DeSantis. This year, she has worked on a number of initiatives aimed at helping Florida children.

“I think she is going to be an outstanding partner,” Simpson said, adding that he would let her take the reins on specific initiatives and “welcome her comments and her decisions.”

Speaking to Senate Republicans, state leaders and family members, Simpson also addressed water-related issues such as seeing a Northern Everglades water-storage project completed because it “tackles the root cause of many of our water quality and quantity problems in the region.”

Waterways such as the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee rivers have been plagued in recent years by toxic algae that stems, at least in part, from polluted water discharged from Lake Okeechobee.

Simpson also pointed to long-discussed efforts to move residents onto sewer systems instead of using septic tanks.

“We also need to get serious about a septic-to-sewer program because it’s the root cause of many of our pollution problems around the state,” Simpson said. “It is going to take resources. We need to offer incentives to local government for replacing outdated, harmful systems.”

When Simpson takes over as president, his counterpart as House speaker will be Palm Harbor Republican Chris Sprowls. Together, Simpson and Sprowls will bring clout for the Tampa Bay region.

In September, when Sprowls was elected as the next House speaker, he said he would like to prioritize fixing “spending problems” in state government.

“We treat the state budget like it’s our own private charitable foundation to be used for the naming rights of buildings or programs,” Sprowls said. “We need to do better than this.”

Simpson vowed to work with the House in partnership, “without gridlock, animosity and stubbornness.” “There’ll always be feisty debates. But no, there’s not going to be fighting or discord,” Simpson told reporters. “We can do all of this without discord.”

UNDERGROUND POWER LINES PLAN MOVES FORWARD October 3, Jim Saunders

TALLAHASSEE --- State regulators moved forward Thursday with a new law aimed at building more underground power lines and making Florida’s electric system better able to withstand punishing hurricanes.

The Florida Public Service Commission approved proposed rules to carry out the law, which is expected to lead to residents and businesses paying more in their electric bills for storm-protection projects.

Deputy Public Counsel Charles Rehwinkel, whose office represents consumers in utility issues, described the rule-making as the “most significant in a generation” because of issues such as potential costs over time that could total hundreds of millions or billions of dollars.

A key part of the law, passed during the spring legislative session, will change how storm-protection projects, including underground power lines, are financed. That change is expected to lead to more projects, which supporters say should help reduce outages and hold down restoration expenses after storms --- but also will lead to upfront costs for customers.

“In the short run, you’re going to see, we believe, increases in bills,” Rehwinkel said.

Public Service Commission Chairman Art Graham issued a statement after Thursday’s approval of the proposed rules and said they will help electric systems better handle severe storms. The law applies to Florida Power & Light, Duke Energy Florida, Tampa Electric Co., Gulf Power and Florida Public Utilities Co.

“Utilities’ investment in storm hardening strengthens Florida’s grid to reduce power outages and speed restoration after a storm,” Graham said. “The proposed storm protection plan rules will further protect Florida’s consumers, including those most vulnerable.”

Under the law, utilities will be able each year to seek approval from the commission to collect money from customers for storm-protection projects, such as building underground power lines. In the past, such projects have generally been financed through base electric rates, which are set for a number of years and include a wide range of utility expenses.

Utilities will have to file 10-year plans with the commission about bolstering storm protection. But the proposed rules approved Thursday drew debate, in part, because of questions about information utilities should have to provide about projects during the first three years.

Commission staff members recommended that utilities should initially provide detailed information about projects planned for all three years, but Florida Power & Light contended that such details should only be required for projects in the first year.

FPL, backed by other utilities, said information submitted initially about projects planned for the second and third years should be broader, such as estimated numbers of projects and estimated costs. The utilities would then come back annually with detailed plans for the next year.

Kenneth Rubin, an attorney for FPL, said plans can change because of a variety of factors and that utilities need flexibility. He also cautioned about “customer dissatisfaction” if a utility had to change plans and eliminate specific projects that had previously been disclosed for the second and third years.

“We certainly don’t want to be locked in for years two and three because we identified certain projects in year one,” Rubin said.

But Rehwinkel said the Office of Public Counsel felt strongly about needing detailed information about the second and third years. That stemmed, in part, from concerns that utilities could collect money under the law for projects whose costs also are being passed on to customers through base rates. The office in a late-August filing described such a situation as “double recovery of the same costs.”

The Public Service Commission sided with FPL and the other utilities on the issue. Commissioner Julie Brown, for example, pointed to the “speculative” nature of the second and third years of projects.

Another point of contention in the proposed rules centered on whether utilities should be able to recover projected costs of the storm-hardening projects --- or whether they should have to wait until work is done to start billing customers. The commission agreed with a staff recommendation to allow collection of projected costs, similar to what utilities are already able to do with certain other types of costs.

After work is finished, the projected and actual costs are compared in what is known as a “true-up” process, with adjustments then made to customers’ bills.

LAWMAKERS SEEK MONEY FOR LOCAL PROJECTS September 30, Jim Turner

TALLAHASSEE --- Lawmakers are already seeking about \$120 million for projects and programs in their local communities, while the latest state revenue estimates have spurred the House budget leader to urge “restraint” as the 2020 legislative session nears.

And based on past sessions, the number of local funding proposals --- sometimes derided by critics as “pork” or “turkeys” --- will soon explode.

As of Monday morning, 55 proposals had been submitted on a variety of projects, from a \$10,000 request to fund Art in the Workplace in Broward County (HB 2021) to a \$5.5 million projects for right-of-way improvements in the Lacochee Industrial Area in northeast Pasco County (HB 2099).

The biggest-ticket proposal has been for \$50 million (HB 2053) to create a matching grant program for water-quality improvements along the Indian River Lagoon.

“We will never solve this problem if we do not get vulnerable areas off of septic systems that are not designed to stop pollution and if we do not upgrade our municipal wastewater systems to remove nutrients from wastewater,” Rep. Randy Fine, a Brevard County Republican who is sponsoring the bill, said in a prepared statement. “This is a multibillion (dollar) problem, and it will require a multi-billion-dollar solution.”

House Appropriations Chairman Rep. Travis Cumming, R-Fleming Island, expressed a need this month for “restraint” from lawmakers as they seek tax dollars for projects and programs in their communities. That came after Amy Baker, coordinator of the Legislature’s Office of Economic and Demographic Research, advised lawmakers that the state is on the verge of an economic slowdown that will result in it bringing in about \$867 million less in revenue over two years than previously projected,

“Clearly, we can’t fund but even a small fraction of those (proposed local projects and programs),” Cummings said.

The 2020 legislative session will start Jan. 14.

During the 2019 session, which ran from March to May, House members pitched more than 1,600 projects that combined would have required \$3.7 billion. Senators sought more than \$3.2 billion in funding, also in more than 1,600 proposals.

Most proposals never got heard. Still, nearly 600 proposals, worth a combined \$400 million, were approved by the Legislature.

Gov. Ron DeSantis removed more than 160 of the member projects as part of \$131 million in vetoes from the \$91 billion fiscal plan.

In considering local projects, DeSantis said after announcing his vetoes that he wanted to see if there was a “real connection to an overall state policy.”

Among the larger items vetoed were \$8 million proposed for a workforce housing project in Jacksonville; \$4.57 million for a public-safety training center in Highlands County; and \$1.69 million for a University of Central Florida downtown project. Many projects cut were for less than \$1 million.

House members file appropriations bills proposing money for local projects, while senators file request forms. Here are examples of some of the proposals filed for the 2020 session:

--- \$9,856,145, by Sen. Kathleen Passidomo, R-Naples, to renovate two of the oldest buildings at Florida SouthWestern State College. (Senate request form 1003).

--- \$3.25 million, by Rep. Ardian Zika, R-Land O' Lakes, for a berm along Boggy Creek at Pasco-Hernando State College (HB 2015).

--- \$3 million, by Rep. Anthony Sabatini, R-Howey-in-the-Hills, for the Green Mountain Connector, part of the Coast-to-Coast bicycle and pedestrian trail northwest of Orlando. (HB 2009).

--- \$2.2 million, by Rep. Mel Ponder, R-Destin, for the extension of Denton Boulevard in Fort Walton Beach (HB 2039).

--- \$1.5 million, by Rep. Michael Gottlieb, D-Davie, for a Plantation Police Department gun range and

training facility (HB 2055).

--- \$865,200, by Sen. Manny Diaz, R-Hialeah, for the Victory For Youth/Share Your Heart, which provides food, clothing and supplies to people, victims of domestic violence and families in crisis or distress (Senate request form 1002).

--- \$760,000, by Sen. Bobby Powell, **D-West Palm Beach**, to increase the size of the Jerome Golden Center, which treats people with concurrent psychiatric and addiction diagnoses. (Senate request form 1001).

--- \$578,000, by Rep. David Silvers, **D-Lake Clarke Shores**, for safety infrastructure at the Palm Beach Zoo (HB 2045).

--- \$400,000, by Rep. Wyman Duggan, R-Jacksonville, for home-delivered meals by the Northeast Florida Area Agency on Aging. (HB 2033).

FRIED SEEKS MEETING ON RULES FOR RESTORING RIGHTS September 27, NSF Staff
Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried, the lone Democrat on the state Executive Board of Clemency, called Friday for Gov. Ron DeSantis to schedule a meeting next month to discuss changing rules that govern the state's process of restoring felons' civil rights. "There are more than 100,000 disenfranchised Floridians with open, pending application for full restoration of civil rights," Fried wrote in a letter to DeSantis and his fellow Republicans on the clemency board, Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis and Attorney General Ashley Moody. Fried said the backlog of cases could be remedied by amending clemency rules, which have changed over the years under different state leaders. In statements to The News Service of Florida, the offices of the governor, Patronis and Moody have indicated interest in changes to address the backlog of cases. But they have not offered details about what they would like to see done. Fried said Wednesday she would like to have the rules changed to mirror 2007 rules under former Gov. Charlie Crist, who was a Republican at the time but is now a Democratic congressman. Under the 2007 rules, felons whose crimes were not considered violent regained their civil rights upon their release from prison and after the state made sure they had paid restitution to victims and did not have pending criminal charges. The clemency board under former Republican Gov. Rick Scott changed the rules in 2011 to require felons to wait five or seven years after their sentences were complete to apply to have rights restored. Lauren Schenone, a Moody spokeswoman, said in a statement that the attorney general is interested in updating the clemency rules to reduce the backlog of cases, but wants it done in an "open and transparent manner." Fried called on the governor to schedule a clemency board meeting following an Oct. 8 Cabinet meeting. The governor's office did not immediately respond to requests for comment about whether he would honor this request.

SB 308 - Traffic Offenses General Bill by Baxley

The Senate version of our Vulnerable Road Users bill has been filed by Sen. Baxley.

Traffic Offenses: Citing this act as the "Vulnerable Road User Act"; providing criminal penalties for a person who commits a moving violation that causes serious bodily injury to, or causes the death of, a vulnerable road user; requiring that the person who commits the moving violation pay a specified fine, serve a minimum period of house arrest, and attend a driver improvement course; requiring that the court revoke the person's driver license for a minimum specified period, etc.

Effective Date: 10/01/2020 Last Event: 09/17/19 S Filed on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 9:02 AM

HOUSE OUTLINES OCTOBER COMMITTEE MEETINGS September 26, 2019 NSF Staff

The Florida House is slated to hold eight days of committee and subcommittee meetings in October as it continues to prepare for the 2020 legislative session. Tentative schedules show the House setting aside time for four days of meetings the week of Oct. 14 to Oct. 18 and four days of meetings the week of Oct. 21 to Oct. 25. The schedules include meetings of the Appropriations Committee on Oct. 14 and Oct. 22 and dozens of other meetings of committees and subcommittees. The Senate also will hold committee

meetings during those weeks and will hold a special session starting Oct. 21 to consider the fate of suspended Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel. Senate President Bill Galvano, R-Bradenton, called the special session Wednesday after receiving a recommendation from Special Master Dudley Goodlette that Israel be reinstated to the sheriff's job. Gov. Ron DeSantis in January suspended Israel over his handling of mass shootings at Parkland's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and at the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport. The 2020 legislative session will start Jan. 14.

SENATE SETS SCHEDULES FOR OCTOBER MEETINGS September 25, 2019 NSF Staff

The Senate has released tentative schedules for back-to-back committee weeks in October, with one of the weeks also including a special session to determine the fate of suspended Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel. Time has been set aside for four days of meetings during the week starting Oct. 14, including an Appropriations Committee meeting slated for Oct. 17. The Senate has planned five days of meetings during the week starting Oct. 21, with the special session happening along with committee meetings. Senate President Bill Galvano, R-Bradenton, called the special session Wednesday after receiving recommendations from Special Master Dudley Goodlette in the Israel case. Gov. Ron DeSantis in January suspended Israel over his handling of mass shootings at Parkland's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and at the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport. Israel appealed to the Senate, which has the power to remove or reinstate elected officials. Goodlette recommended this week that Israel be reinstated. The Senate is scheduled to start the special session at 9 a.m. Oct. 21 in the Senate chamber, with the Rules Committee following at 10:30 a.m. to consider the Israel case. The full Senate is expected to meet again at 2 p.m. Oct. 23. The two weeks of committee meetings are part of preparing for the 2020 legislative session, which will start Jan. 14.

NEW LAWS TARGET DRIVERS, HAZING, VETERANS COURTS

September 26, 2019 Jim Turner

TALLAHASSEE --- Measures to protect police dogs and horses and crack down on hazing and child-like sex dolls are among new laws ready to take effect next week.

Also, the state's ban on texting while driving will expand to prohibit motorists from using handheld wireless devices while driving in designated school crossings, school zones and work zones.

Just don't expect tickets until the new year on the hand-held device law.

"You can't have the phone in your hand at all," Florida Highway Patrol Lt. Derrick Rahming said. "The only thing you can do is talk on a hands-free device. If you are holding a phone or any kind of device, you will be stopped, and you will be issued a warning."

Rep. Al Jacquet, D-Riviera Beach, is using the warning period to alert his constituents about concerns the law could spur racial profiling and traffic stops of minority motorists.

"I have stressed prior to the bill's passage that a portion of it doesn't go far enough to address concerns of abuse by police officers," Jacquet said in a prepared statement. "I want you to remember these words: One day we're going to look back and we're going to say, 'We were wrong.' While the sponsor of the bill had the right idea and the right mindset, the way we decided to implement the law is problematic."

In addition to the handheld-device change, 27 new state laws will go on the books Tuesday from the 2019 legislative session, which ended in May. Of those, 12 kept alive previously approved exemptions to the state's public-records law.

The new laws are among 189 bills signed by Gov. Ron DeSantis --- he vetoed five others --- from the session. Most new laws, 150, took effect upon receiving DeSantis' signature or with the July 1 start of the fiscal year.

Among the changes taking effect Tuesday:

--- **TEXTING WHILE DRIVING.** Lawmakers passed a bill (HB 107) that strengthened the state's ban

on texting while driving by making it a “primary” offense, allowing police to pull over motorists for texting behind the wheel. Most of the measure took effect July 1. But starting Tuesday, it will require motorists to go hands-free on wireless devices in school and work zones. The law directs law-enforcement officers to provide verbal or written warnings until the end of the year for motorists who don’t put down cell phones in those areas. Tickets will start to be issued Jan. 1, punishable as a moving violation with three points assessed against the driver’s license.

--- **HAZING.** A new law (SB 1080) was crafted after Andrew Coffey, a Florida State University fraternity pledge from Lighthouse Point, died in 2017 after drinking a bottle of Wild Turkey bourbon that had been taped to his hand. The law targets people who plan acts of hazing or solicit others to engage in hazing and makes it a third-degree felony if the hazing results in a permanent injury. The bill also provides immunity to people who call 911 or campus security to report the need for medical assistance during hazing incidents.

--- **POLICE DOGS AND HORSES.** The measure (SB 96) makes it a second-degree felony, up from a third-degree felony, for people who kill or cause great bodily harm to police, fire or search-and-rescue dogs or police horses. The change boosts the amount of potential prison time from five years to 15 years. Supporters said the bill stems, at least in part, from the deaths of Fang, a member of the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office canine unit shot and killed by a teenager fleeing after carjacking two women at a gas station, and a Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office police dog named Cigo that was killed in the line of duty.

--- **CHILD-LIKE SEX DOLLS.** The law (SB 160), in part, makes it a first-degree misdemeanor to sell, give away or show child-like sex dolls. The charge increases to a third-degree felony on subsequent violations. A committee staff analysis said the importation to the U.S. of sex dolls that resemble children has become increasingly prevalent. “Such dolls are manufactured in China, Hong Kong, or Japan and are shipped to the U.S. labeled as clothing mannequins or models in order to avoid detection,” the analysis said.

--- **VETERANS’ COURTS:** The law (SB 910) removes a requirement that military veterans be honorably discharged to be eligible for participation in veterans’ courts. It also expands overall eligibility to current or former U.S. defense contractors and military members of allied countries. Veterans’ courts are designed to provide treatment interventions to military veterans and active-duty service members who are charged with criminal offenses and suffer from military-related injuries, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury or a substance-abuse disorder.

--- News Service Assignment Manager Tom Urban contributed to this report

Alcee Hastings’ relationship with aide appears to flout House rule

By Wayne Washington Oct 31, 2019

A California congresswoman quits as the House Ethics Committee started investigation into whether she had an improper relationship with a staffer. But the same committee — led by U.S. Rep. Ted Deutch, D-Boca Raton — has not investigated U.S. Rep. Alcee Hastings, who has admitted to being in a relationship with his aide.

But there is no indication that the committee — chaired by U.S. Rep. Ted Deutch, D-Boca Raton — has investigated Deutch’s Palm Beach County colleague, U.S. Rep. Alcee Hastings, who told The Palm Beach Post in April that he remained in a relationship with a member of his congressional staff.

Hastings, 83, has employed a disbarred lawyer, Patricia Williams, on his congressional staff since at least 2000. She has been paid nearly \$3 million in taxpayer-funded salary since that time, according to LegiStorm, which tracks the pay of congressional staff members.

Property records show Williams and Hastings bought a \$700,000 house together near Boynton Beach in 2017.

Hastings' relationship with Williams has drawn scrutiny before, but the congressman has brushed off ethical concerns. He told The Post that he is unconcerned with the appearance of impropriety generated by his relationship with Williams.

"However it looks, it's been looking like that for 25 years," he said.

In February 2018, the House passed new rules barring members of Congress from having a sexual relationship with a member of his or her staff. House members who violate the rule could face sanctions ranging from a letter of reproof to expulsion.

Deutch was among the co-sponsors of the resolution that changed the workplace rules.

One of the rule's main supporters, former U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock, R-Va., said Hastings is violating it.

"His flouting of the rules is legendary," Comstock said. "This is open and shut. He is in violation."

Hastings' office did not respond to multiple requests for comment on whether the congressman continues to be in a relationship with Williams and whether that relationship puts him in violation of House rules.

Deutch, who has served with Hastings in adjoining South Florida districts since his own election in 2010, also declined comment on why it was appropriate to investigate the California congresswoman but not start a similar probe of his Florida colleague.

Before she was disbarred for misusing client funds, Williams represented Hastings in the 1980s when Hastings was impeached and removed from his position as a U.S. District Court judge. After he won a seat in the House in 1992, he hired Williams, who is listed by LegiStorm as his deputy district director.

In January, Hastings announced that he has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He told The Sun-Sentinel in July he plans to stand for re-election to a 14th term next year.

Figures from the Federal Election Commission show Hastings has raised nearly \$126,000 toward his re-election.

Even as he battles cancer, Hastings, who serves on the Rules Committee, has continued to participate in committee meetings and cast votes.

Lateresa Jones, a Republican who has filed to run against Hastings next year, said the congressman should be investigated.

"Congressman Ted Deutch needs to grow some (courage) and do the right thing by the people," Jones said. "This behavior is not acceptable. Alcee Hastings is not above the law."

The Ethics Committee typically refrains from commenting on investigations, but Deutch and the top Republican on the committee, Kenny Marchant of Texas, did confirm reports that the committee had launched an investigation of U.S. Rep. Katie Hill, D-Calif.

The new House workplace rules were largely seen as a way to bring Congress in line with private sector workplaces, which typically frown upon relationships between supervisors and subordinates.

Because many of those who had historically alleged harassment were women, the new rules are particularly important to them.

But while Hastings appears to have escaped sanction, it is his female colleague in the House who resigned.

Last year, after several instances of taxpayer money being used to pay off women who alleged mistreatment by members of Congress, the House updated its code of conduct to require lawmakers themselves to pay settlements.

Hastings had been among those members of Congress who was accused of sexual harassment by a woman who worked on a commission he led.

The woman, Winsome Packer, said Hastings made crude sexual comments to her, touched her inappropriately and pursued her for sex.

Hastings denied the accusation. A lawsuit Packer filed was dismissed, and an Ethics Committee investigation found no evidence to support her allegations.

Still, Packer got a \$220,000 settlement — paid for by American taxpayers.

Comstock said she and others found Packer to be credible.

"She approached me, and I believed her and I think the people involved believed her," Comstock said.

Hastings said he did not know of the payment before it was made and insisted it was unjustified.

In barring the use of taxpayer money to pay off staff members alleging mistreatment, the House also updated its code of conduct to prohibit House members from having a sexual relationship with a member of their

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staff.

With powerful men in politics and entertainment losing jobs and facing a public backlash after being accused of inappropriate behavior with subordinates, House members hailed the changes as “historic.”

“Thanks to the #MeToo movement, the American public has made it clear that they have had enough,” U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier, D-Calif., said. “They expect Congress to lead, and, for once, we are.” Deutch, who did not respond to requests for comment on Hastings, joined in the praise of the new rules, saying they were overdue.

“This bill will not only strengthen our out-of-date workplace protections, but it will send an important message to the entire country that members of Congress will be held accountable,” he said last year as the new rules were being debated.

Democrats were not in the majority when the House changed its workplace rules. Deutch was the top Democrat on the Ethics Committee at that time and became its chairman in January after his party regained the majority.

Hastings confirmed his relationship with Williams to The Post several months after that.

The new rules do not include a provision that grandfathers in a relationship between a member of Congress and a staffer that began before the workplace rules were changed.

Questions The Post asked Deutch’s office about Hastings were directed to a staff member of the Ethics Committee, who would not comment.

The updated code of conduct reads: “A member, delegate, or resident commissioner may not engage in a sexual relationship with any employee of the House who works under the supervision of the member, delegate, or resident commissioner.”

That wording offers Hastings or any other member of Congress in a relationship with a staff member a potential out: If House investigators can’t prove the relationship between the House member and the staffer is a sexual relationship, the House member could be in the clear.

Comstock said the notion that House investigators would need video or photographic evidence to prove the relationship is sexual is ridiculous.

“You’d never prosecute any inappropriate things if that was the standard,” she said.

Investigators could compile evidence by interviewing fellow staff members and anyone else who is aware of the alleged relationship, Comstock said.

That the relationship might be consensual does not mean it’s appropriate, she said.

“It’s about the rest of the office,” Comstock said. “What about the people who do not go home with the boss? If someone has a relationship with someone (on staff), how much work is being done versus play?”

Hastings told The Post Williams advises him on immigration issues.

“She’s worked with me from Day One,” the congressman said in April. “It would be one thing if she didn’t work. But she’s working today, and she has continued to work.”

As her boss, Hastings determines what work Williams performs and how much she gets paid. LegiStorm records for April through June show Williams was paid \$42,103, which would equate to \$168,412 per year.

No staffer for any other member of Palm Beach County’s congressional delegation gets paid more, and that includes chiefs of staff, typically the highest paid member of a congressional staff.

Comstock said she does not know why Hastings has not been investigated.

She praised Deutch as “a good guy” who “treated things fairly.”

But Comstock said some members — long-serving members at minimal risk of electoral defeat whose ethical issues are known but hushed in the clubby atmosphere of Congress — get something of a pass.

“There is a sense that there are people who get away with it and people who don’t,” she said.

Staff researcher Melanie Mena contributed to this story.

<https://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/20191031/alcee-hastings-relationship-with-aide-appears-to-flout-house-rule>

ABATE of FL Inc. Palm Beach Chapter Minutes

Call to Order: Meeting of Abate Palm Beach Chapter was held at The VFW Post, 2404 Broadway Ave, Riviera Beach, FL 33404,

Meeting Called to Order at 11:43 A.M. 12 Members Present 1 Guests Present

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

President: Curtis - Progress of our event planning. Working on having it at Palm Beach Harley December 15. Food trucks, beer/liquor vendors being search with help of VFW, need vendors (UPDATE Harley fell through so will be at Anchor Inn Dec. 15 2-6 State approval)

Vice President: LB nothing to report.

Secretary: Asked if anyone has any additions, corrections or objections to last month's meeting minutes as published in chapter newsletter. There were none.

Treasurer: Suzanne - need ways to increase bank account. Memberships and products

Sergeant At Arms: Petee absent

Membership: Vinnie absent. Harold sat in. Working to update renewal notices. All members present filled out ADD cards that Half Pint will mail to State Office. Come to meeting to fill out your benefit cards. Clubs can be beneficiary

Products: absent State looking into Anniversary coin for helmet choice law

Safety: Slo-Mo Going to try to do table at more events. Harley bike night Thursday and Chili Cook-off weather kept me away. Hope to do Howley's

Delegate Report: Slo-Mo & Snooze see report page 20

Legislative: Slo-Mo see report page 24

Public Relations: Slo-Mo. Waiting on event approval to promote

Newsletter: Slo-Mo. Covergirls are back, have more from Pensacola travels

Old Business: Event discussed under President

New Business: As per state the state rifle it was brought to chapter to see if to continue.

Good of the Order: G-man won the door prize. He kept the Corona but since he is an Indian man, the Harley gift certificate took another drawing. Foxybabe won that and the 50/50 which she donated back to chapter. December meeting is SECOND Sunday the 8th

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. 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.

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 530944, Lake Park, FL 33403**

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.

A.D.D. INSURANCE POLICY UPDATE

We all realize the \$4,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance policy if 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



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

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

ABATE — Palm Beach Chapter

PO Box 530944 Lake Park FL 33403

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

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.

MEMBERSHIPS FEE \$

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

SIGNATURE Date:

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

ABATE
of Florida Inc.

SOUTHERNMOST CHAPTER

SUNDAY DEC. 1, 2019

TOYS FOR CONCH KIDS

KICKSTANDS UP

10AM - KMART KEY WEST (33040)
11AM - MM30 BIG PINE KEY (33043)
12PM - KMART MARATHON (33050)
12:30 TO 3PM - D.A.V. MARATHON (33050)

CONTACT: BILL KELLY, 305-743-6098
SAFETY/MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AVAILABLE

BRING AN (UNWRAPPED) TOY
(PLEASE NO STUFFED ANIMALS)

TOYS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT THE PARTY TO SEVERAL CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS. LAST BIKE IN AT 1 PM. PARTY ENDS AT 3 PM

SOUTHERNMOST CHAPTER

35TH BIRTHDAY BASH

FUN - FOOD - BIKER GAMES
\$10 (\$5 ABATE MEMBERS) PIG ROAST WITH SIDES
MEMBERSHIP SIGN UP AVAILABLE.
ALL NEW MEMBERSHIPS GET A FREE T-SHIRT.
50/50, SILENT AUCTION, GUN DRAWING

ALL PATCHES WELCOME

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ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.
POLK COUNTY CHAPTER
Announces
36th ANNUAL TOY RUN

Sunday, December 1st, 2019. Registration begins at 11:00am; KSU 1:00pm-ends at 4:00pm.
Ride begins at: Christina Park W CR-540A, Lakeland, FL.
Ride ends at: The Boondocks 8515 US 98 North, Lakeland, FL.

All are welcome!

The ride benefits Polk County Christmas Angels, Inc. The children who receive our gifts are all in Polk County. Please bring new unwrapped toys to donate.
For further information please call:
Zman 863-559-9550 (President)
Tim 863-712-7548 (Vice President)

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Next Palm Beach Chapter Meeting VFW POST 4143
3rd Sunday Nov. 17, 2019 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.**
Support the VFW by having breakfast 9 am to Noon

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.