

ABATE OF FLORIDA SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

NEW WEB: www.abatese.org • HOTLINE: 954.310.INFO (4636)

ISSUE
311

June 2009



A MERICAN
B IKERS
A IMING
T OWARD
E DUCATION

NEXT
CHAPTER
MEETING
10 AM
Sunday
June 21, 2009



LET THOSE
WHO RIDE
DECIDE!



Tiki Tavern Sports Grill

**ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.
PALM BEACH CHAPTER
3RD ANNUAL RIGHTS RALLY
JUNE 27, 2009
5:00 PM - 10:00 PM**

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Donations: \$3.00 single, \$5.00 Couple -
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Directions: 95 to Boynton Beach Blvd, East to Federal Highway (US1), Turn left at Federal Highway (US1) On to NE 4th Ave turn left, go to 511-4th, and turn right. (Formerly Traffic Dept)

CONTACT: (For more information)

KATHY OLSEY (561) 302-7150 or MAIN OFFICE (561) 482-4346

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TO PLACE ADVERTISEMENTS



You must submit print ready ads or PC compatible disk. Black type on white paper, including business cards, required. Ads and copy must be prepaid to "SE ABATE Chapter" and submitted at or before the chapter meeting to be included in that issue. Due to limited space all ads must be paid to date or they will be dropped without notification. THE ADVERTISER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COPY AND AD CHANGES. Non-camera ready advertisements will incur a minimum \$25 layout charge and will be billed separately.

The Southeast Chapter Newsletter is published monthly by ABATE of Florida, Inc. Southeast Chapter, PO BOX 292693, Ft. Lauderdale FL 33329-2693 1600+ NEWSLETTERS PUBLISHED MONTHLY

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC., or the Southeast Chapter. This publication encourages its members to express their own beliefs and/or opinions. ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. and the Southeast Chapter accepts no responsibility for the opinions, views, or comments contained in this publication. Southeast Chapter reserves the right to edit any article submitted for publication for misspellings or inappropriate language.

Membership Due

May	Bill Farley	Joe Marion
Dianna L. Aberman	Hector Fernandez	David Marotte
Elizabeth Alvarez	Denise "Trouble" Fitzgerald	Nicholas Marziliano
David Amchir	Lindsay Gibson	Miguel Medina
Vicente Andreu	JoAnn Gil	Vioiano Monson
Julio Andujar	Michael Goldbach	Amy Montellanico
Lowell Arnold	Felix Gomez	Silvio Mulder
Abe Avila	Michael Guttieri	James Myers
Conrad Barton	Aron Hershkwitz	Laurie Nicolaus
Maria Basil	John Holmes	David Perez
Jerry Benoit	Alan Holt	Margaret Peterson
Matthew Bozza	Donald Holt	Jahziel Pinerio
Marjorie Broda	Joel Jeknick	Sergio Pontillo
Becky Brown	Bianca Kasper	Joey Quinter
Jay Brown	Gerry Kekates	Hennau Ramirez
James Buckley	Aron Kershkwitz	Scott Reilly
Darrell Byers	David Kimbler	Alain Rodriguez
Ted Casey	Robert Kirchuff	Victor Rodriguez
Charles Clark	Gregg Koenig	Victor Roman
Frank "Poppie" Cocchi	Hank Konczynski	Jorge Sanchez
Charlene Coronate	Joyce Konczynski	Mike Savino
Andrew Corsetti	Robert Kraft	Tom Schongar
Y'Vonne Cover	Michael Kuse	Thomas Sellers
Dennis Diaz	John Lefkowitz	Juan Serrano
Allan Downard	Marty Lux	Howard Shaine
John Edge	Laurie L Mackrell	Dave Sim
	Steve Maham	Wayne D. Smith
	Greg Margolf	

Thanks if you have already renewed

Gary R Soubel	Eladio Garcia	Jennifer Tkatch-Solomon
Allen C Starke Jr.	Steven Gilbert	Thom Wilker
Paula Stevens	Paul Gogliardo	
Jody Swett	Eric Gompertz	
Steve Urrch	Anthony Greaves	July
Angel Vega	Dennis Griffin	Alex Abascal
	Ronald Hinson	Emilu Alvarez
	Garry Hoffmann	Luis Alvarez
	Emilio Jimenez	Wayne "Pappy" Banta
	Carlos "Mona" Lozada	Brad Bennett
	Robert Mc Donald	Ossie Cerna
	Jimmi "Beacon" McConnel	Rick Kaiser
	Harold W "Old Man" McLaren	Roxann Kaiser
	Micheal Mench	K C Kasper
	James Morin	Bob "Old Hippy" Leavitt
	Tyler Quinter	Maria Lopez
	Bill Ruddy	Orlando Lopez
	Kimberly Ruddy	Erwin Nissen
	Gregory J Sacoulas	Jose Angel Otano
	Robert Edward "Bob" Seth	George Pardee
	Emilio Simenez	Luis Perez
	Jon "Spoon" Spoon	Aaron J Sutton
	Hyacinth Stewart	Ruben C Vento
		Martha Yappel

You have 30 days from the last day of your expiration month to renew your membership or be deleted from the State's List. Also (very important) be sure to notify us of any change of address to continue receiving your newsletter and Masterlink.

Pick up your newsletter here:

84 Diner	Keltics MC	Thunder Cycles
Blue Jays	Beer Barn	CycleLab
Broward Motor Sports	Top Guns Cycle	Biker's Inc.
Southern Fox	Wheels of ManMC	Mastermailer.
Kelly's Bowl	HD Pompano	Players Pub
HD South	HD Sunrise	On the road again
JP Mulligans	Ballers	Texas Rose
Vin "EZ" Cycle Parts	FOE- Eagles	Flossie's
HD FTL	HD North	Mickey's
VFW Post 9697	Heaven Cycles	Lukes
Johnny Fucifino's	Lou's Tattoos (2 shops)	Wetz
Kings Head Pub	DP's on Beach	
Big Dawgs	Crotch Rockets to	
Daisy Dukes	Bar Hoppers	
American Legion 321		

ATTENTION

When you renew your ABATE membership, you may also purchase a yearly membership pin. Shirts and patches available also .

Call Brett Gerber (561)704-2639 for details!!



President's Message

Jimmy Les Lesniak



Hello All. June is the month we prepare for hurricanes, the kids get out of school and we honor our Fathers. I personally like the last one best. This month I will start with information from ABATE of Florida, Inc., Legislative Trustee.

The 2009 Florida Legislative Session has ended and you want to know how did the motorcycle community fare? Well, here it is in a nutshell: we won 2 and lost one!

Bad news first. The "Stiffer Penalties Bill" flew through the House without a glitch, unfortunately, and the Senate's Criminal and Civil Justice Appropriations committee indefinitely postponed and withdrew the Bill from consideration. We do have a strong hope for next year to get this passed.

In the past you have heard me talk about the \$1,000 penalty for having a license tag mounted vertically. A bill that REMOVES the language that a tag "MUST BE HORIZONTAL" was passed. It changes the language to read, "The license tag of a motorcycle or moped must be permanently affixed to the vehicle and may not be adjusted or capable of being flipped up. No device for or method of concealing or obscuring the legibility of the license tag of a motorcycle shall be installed or used." This is currently waiting for the Governor's signature, and when he signs it, it will take effect immediately.

The "First Responders Bill" that "A county may not impose a fee or seek reimbursement for any costs or expenses that may be incurred for services provided by a first responder, including costs or expenses related to personnel, supplies, motor vehicles, or equipment in response to a motor vehicle accident, except for costs to contain or clean up hazardous materials in quantities reportable to the Florida State Warning Point at the Division of Emergency Management, and costs for transportation and

treatment provided by ambulance services licensed pursuant to ss. 401.23(4) and 401.23(5)."

So, all in all, we did not lose any freedoms and corrected one bad law regarding the tags. So thanks to everyone for all your hard work with reaching out to our Legislators and support of ABATE of Florida, Inc. (contributed by Darren Brooks Legislative Trustee ABATE of Florida Inc.)

ABATE Southeast Chapter had its Memorial Weekend Event May 24th and I have one word to describe it - AWESOME!!!! Each year I am amazed by how this event continues to be so awesome. I have to thank everyone who contributed to the success of this event. I was honored to have SFC Anthony Tambling. He added so much to our event to make it special. Thanks to the American Legion Post 321 and the V. F. W. 9697 which helped with the Color Guard and 21 Gun Salute. Thanks to Calvary Chapel and the Christian Motorcycle Association for the prayers and help with the Color Guard. I want to thank the clubs which provided the shooters for our salute and to Reb who has rehearsed and led the 21 Gun Salute for the last several years. I would like to thank all of the organizations which loaned us the use of their equipment and all of our supporters who contributed the wonderful prizes for our drawings and giveaways. A big hand should be given to our entertainment: Broke Down and Ringerz, which provided the fantastic music. I know everyone who had something to eat will like to thank Papa Bear, an ABATE Member from the Palm Beach Chapter and the owner of Papa Bear's Den, for the delicious food. Thanks to all the people who attended and helped make this event the biggest and best event we have had in a very long time. I know I have forgotten to thank someone and I apologize for that. Please, forgive me.

Now for the really important personal thanks to all of the ABATE people/members. I am very proud of the people from Southeast Chapter who worked so hard for so many days to prepare for and run this event. Every time I turned around something we needed to get accomplished to make this event a success was completed. It was not the hard work of

ten people that made the event successful, but the work of 50 plus. Even the evening event meetings had twenty plus people. I am so happy so many contributed; this was a large event and would not have been possible had it not been for the contributions of everyone involved. Thanks for all the hours in the sun that people worked for the motorcycle community. If you ride a motorcycle and you see someone with a Southeast Chapter ABATE patch, you should thank them for all of their hard work. I owe this chapter so much, because so many have given so much to make this chapter the best in Florida. I may be long winded about how great these people are, but by now everyone who knows me should be used to that. My hat is off to the hard working members of the Southeast Chapter.

One final note to this article, many people know, but if you do not, I will not be seeking reelection as president of Southeast Chapter. It has been three years and my Vice President, Jimbo Sherrow, has shown interest in this position. I am willing and glad to support this man. I hope everyone will give him your support and show him the respect he deserves.

Till next time. Ride Safe and Free,

Jimmy Les



Call to Action

At the top in the choices on the left, click on the new selection "Legislative Info Center"

Once you are in the new Legislative Info Center, at the top left, you cannot miss the SIGN UP NOW message. Click on that and proceed with the sign up as indicated.

Website at <http://www.abateflorida.com/>

Thank you for the donations for Multiple Sclerosis from the ride on May 2, 2009

Nikki Keen



**To stop delivery of your newsletter to your home email:
membership@abatese.org**

**ABATE of Florida, Southeast Chapter
Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 10:14am by SGT @ Arms Leo "Lion" Breault with 56 members, and two At-Large members in attendance. There were no guests or non-members present. Total in attendance: 58. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence, the meeting started with a prayer given by Tumbleweed.

President's Report

Jimmy thanked all our members for coming and introduced our new members. We will need a lot of help for our Memorial Day event which will be on 5/24/09 at Café 27. More information under Events. It has been a tough month. We have lost 5 brothers: AOA Roger 1%er, Jerry 1%er, Gene Keltics MC, Adrian Hermadad MC and Rambo USLegacy & VNVMC. They will be missed. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers. There will be a Celebration of Life for Rambo this Sat. 5/23/09 at Café 27. It will start at 12:00.

Vice-President's Report

Jimbo discussed our Memorial Day event. We only have 3 events a year to raise money for OUR chapter. We need everyone's help in order to make this event a huge success.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made to accept the minutes of April's meeting as printed in the newsletter. No corrections. Motion seconded, all in favor, motion passed. Discussion on the breakdown of members listed.

Treasurer's Report

Alice read the report. A motion was made, seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. All in favor, motion passed.

Sergeant at Arms Report

Lion asked for help with our event. He thanked all the old timers who were present at today's meeting. We can't forget what ABATE stands for especially with our elections coming up. It is important to support all who get elected to office. We need organizational unity to be successful.

Road Captain's Report

Jimbo reported right after today's meeting we will be headed to the Wings of Gold Palm Beach.

5/23/09 – Load the trailer for our event. Meet at the warehouse at 10:00 a.m. If you do not know where the warehouse is, you can meet at the American Legion or VFW at 09:30. We will have members at both who can take you over.

5/24/09 – ABATE SE Memorial Day Event at Café 27.

5/31/09 – Soldiers for Jesus MC Event. Meet at the Legion at 10:00 a.m. leaving at 11:30 a.m.

5/31/09 – Enforcers MC Event, Meet at the Legion at 10:00 a.m. leaving at 11:30 a.m.

6/7/09 – AOA treasure Coast. Check the hotline for meeting place and times.

6/13/09 – ABATE State Meeting at Lake County. Contact Jimmy Les if you wish to attend.

6/14/09 – Wings of Gold Annual. Meet at the Legion at 10:00 a.m. Leaving at 11:30 a.m.

Safety Directors' Report

Suzanne reported on the upcoming driver's education program where we give our Safety Program to high school students. Last summer we showed the program to 1500 students in 10 high schools. We need your help. Any one interested in becoming an instructor, please contact her or Bob Anz. We will have our Safety booth at the event. Please stop by to help.

State Reps' Report

There was no State meeting. Next month is the State meeting hosted by Lake County on 6/14/09.

Products Report

Brett reported we have geared up with products for our event. If you need anything don't wait for the meeting, just give him a call.

Membership Report

George reported we now have 637 members. If you know of anyone on the list in the newsletter who has not renewed, please get them to renew. Reminder, when filling out the application form, PLEASE WRITE OR PRINT LEGIBALLY.

Newsletter Editor

Suzanne reported if you have any articles of interest please get them to her no later than Tuesday 5/26/09 as we want to go to press no later than Wednesday. Please patronize our advertisers and let them know

you saw their ad in our newsletter. Thank you to Brian for the great job on the printing of the newsletter. Discussion regarding miss-prints, Bob Amann offered to proof read all articles.

Legislative Report

Demetrious reported on an upcoming issue with the city of Lauderdale by the Sea. Seems they are trying to enact a noise ordinance in their city. If this ordinance has any wording pertaining to motorcycles, we will need to show up at their city council meeting on Tuesday 6/9/09 to voice our concerns. Cities cannot have laws which are stricter than the State's. We will provide the information as soon as we get a copy of the ordinance. Check the hotline and web-site.

Public Relations

No report.

Advertising

We need advertisers. No matter where, ask them to take out an ad. Business card ads are very reasonable. We have a distribution of over 1600 copies per month. A great job has been done by all in the distribution of our newsletter. Also coming soon will be web based ads.

Events Coordinator

Rick reported: We are all set to go. We will be loading the trailer on Sat. 5/23/09 at 10:00 a.m. Set up will be on Sun. morning at 7:00 a.m. We will be leaving at 9:00 a.m. heading to the Sandy Ninninger Veterans' Nursing Home to have coffee with the veterans between 09:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. From there we will be heading to the Pyramid off 595 for a Memorial Service, then to Café 27 for our event. We have 12 confirmed vendors, Color Guard, CMA Memorial Wall and the Vietnam Vets Memorial Wall. We need more door prizes. Anywhere you go, just ask. Many businesses are willing but if we don't ask, we don't get. Don't forget Sponsorship Banners are available. In order for our event to be successful, we need all the help we can get this year as we are also handling the food. There will be a short committee meeting right after our meeting. Rick thanked all the members for their support for the past year he has served as events coordinator. As we all know "He did one heck of a job"

Social Director's Report

Karin thanked all those who came out for this month's birthday party which was held right here at the Legion.

The count was 50 who had a great time. Next month's birthday party will be on 6/20/09. Location not finalized as of yet. Check the hotline and the web-site. If you want your birthday recognized, please contact her.

Quartermaster's Report

Bob Anz reported there was no report.

Photographer's Report

Axman reported we will have a link from our web-site to his where he will have an ABATE corner with our pictures on it. If you have any pictures, please forward to him so he may post them on the web. Check out his web-site www.axmanpictures.com where you can purchase high quality framed prints for only \$10.00

Web-Master's Report

Ricky Mouse reported the web-site is up and running. The information is easy to find. Please provide him feedback and suggestions. Please send him any legal updates so he can post them. Web address is: www.abatese.org

Trash master's Report

Aaron reported there was no report.

Old Business

Lion took over for nominations. He explained the process for our members. Nominations for the 2009-2010 Board of Directors and Trustees are:

President

James "Jimmy Les" Lesniak – Declined

Chuck Widle - Declined

Leo "Lion" Breault – Declined

James "Jimbo" Sherrow – Accepted

Vice-President

ames "Jimbo" Sherrow – Declined

Leo "Lion" Breault – Declined

Bob "Old Hippie" Leavitt- Accepted

Secretary

Paul A. Melcer – accepted

Treasurer

Alice Calabrese – Accepted

Sgt. at Arms

Robert "BARS" Calabrese – Accepted

Bob "Old Hippie" Leavitt-Declined

Road Captain

James "Jimbo" Sherrow – Declined

Chris Brennan – Accepted

R."Cutter" Von Eyk- Declined

Safety Director

Suzanne Keen – Declined
 Bob Anz - Declined
 George “GEO” Borgrakos – Accepted

State Representatives

Suzanne Keen – declined
 Chuck Widle – declined
 James “Jimmy Les” Lesniak – accepted
 Demetrios Kirkles – accepted
 Chris Sharp – Accepted
 Bob “Old Hippie” Leavitt- Accepted
 Tony Denito – Accepted

Products

Brett Gerber –Declined
 Marjorie Rheume - Declined
 Bars – Declined
 Linda Michnowicz – Declined
 Hope Lanius – Declined
 Susan Jordan – Accepted

Membership

George Torrence– Accepted

Newsletter Editor

Suzanne Keen – Accepted
 LeAnn “Wildcat” Lewis – Declined

Legislative Liaison

Bob “Old Hippie” – Accepted
 Chuck Widle – Declined
 Chris Sharpe – Declined
 Demetrios Kirkles – declined

Legal Counsel

Demetrios Kirkles – Accepted
 Chris Sharpe – Decline

Public Relations

Axel “Axman” Wojnar – Declined
 Ron “Cutter” Von Eyk – declined
 Al Newcomer - Declined
 Rick Hernandez – Declined
 Marjorie Rheume – Accepted

Advertising

Ron “Cutter” Von Eyk – Declined
 Rick Hernandez - Declined
 Marjorie Rheume – Declined
 Hope Lanius – Accepted
 Linda Michnowicz – Declined
 Suzanne Keen – Declined
 Jimmy “Les”Lesniak – Declined

Ginger – Declined
 Phil Serio – Accepted

Events

Bob “Shaky “Nieman – Accepted
 Rick Hernandez – Declined

Social Director

Karin Rylands – Accepted
 LeAnn” Wildcat” Lewis – declined
 Princess Sharon – Declined
 Ron “Cutter” Von Eyk – Declined

Quartermaster

Bob Anz – Accepted

Photographer

Axel “Axman” Wojnar – Accepted
 Hope Lanius – Declined
 Leann “Wildcat” Lewis – Declined
 Mike Hagar – Declined

Web Master

Ricky “Mouse” Jans – Accepted
 Mike Hagar – Declined

Trashmaster

Aaron Sutton – Declined
 Hank Ski – Declined
 Doctor Bob – Declined
 Charlie Gaudreau – Accepted

Chaplain

Frank “Poppie ‘Cocchi – Accepted
 Jim “Tumbleweed” McLemore – Declined

Nominations are now closed. Voting will take place at our June meeting. Cigar Charlie has offered his service to chair the elections. Thank you Charlie. All members who have accepted nominations must be present at the June meeting to accept their positions.

Our outgoing President Jimmy Les received a standing ovation for the past 3 years he has served as President of our chapter.

Debbie was presented an ABATE pin for all her help and support in handling the weekly e-mail updates and Shaky Bob was also given a pin for all his work on our cooker.

New Business

The Christmas in July Event falls on our regular monthly meeting date. We have been asked to assist.

Motion made, seconded to move our July monthly meeting to July 12, 2009. Discussion followed. Vote all in favor. Motion passed

Good of the order

Val Loper reported on the NCOM convention which she attended. Next year's convention is just up the road in Orlando. This is a great opportunity to attend one. There will be a "Thank You, Appreciation" party on 5/30/09 at Jimmy Les and Suzanne's house. Party will start at 5:00 p.m. Bring a covered dish and whatever you drink. All are welcome.

Suzanne reported on the MS ride which her daughter participated in. She completed the 75 mile bike ride and raised \$895.00. Way to go. Karin reported when ever we are at the Legion, please act responsible and respect the post. The Legion will be holding its elections this Wednesday. All Legion members are asked to come out and vote.

Brett asked all our members to think before getting on your bike if you have been drinking. We have a responsibility to take their keys if looks like someone has had too much to drink. We have been to enough funerals lately.

Leo "Lion" thanked the members for their support, respect and cooperation while he has been Sgt. @ Arms. Well Lion, we "Thank You" for the tremendous job you have done.

A motion was called for and seconded to adjourn, all in favor, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 12:03pm

These minutes are summarized and respectfully submitted

Paul A. Melcer

Secretary



S.E. Chapter

Special Thank You to our Food Contributors for the Memorial Day Celebration

Papa Bear's Den - Food and Chef
4645 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33415
(561) 478-4227

Ayesteran Restaurant - Moros
706 SW 27th Avenue,
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El Gallito Bakery - Cuban Bread
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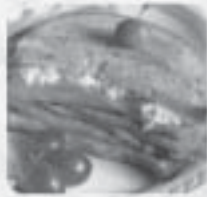
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and President's Meeting

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These Leadership Seminars are for **ALL CHAPTER OFFICERS**.
Each seminar will be presented by the State Board Member based on his or her respective office.
These seminars will offer a good overview of the duties and responsibilities of a Chapter Officer
And will give attendees a chance to get answers to their questions on an individual basis.

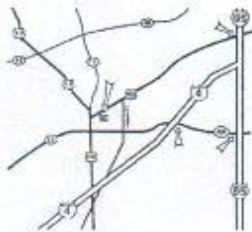
SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2009

TIME	ROOM A	ROOM B	ROOM C
8:00 - 9:00	Treasury	Products	Secretary/Insurance
9:00 - 10:00	Treasury	Delegates	Membership
10:00 - 11:00	Treasury	Sgt-At-Arms	Newsletter
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00	Safety	Legislative	PR/Communications
2:00 - 3:00	Safety	Legislative	PR/Web

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2009

9am - 12 Noon Presidents/Vice Presidents Meeting

For further information contact: ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. State Office (386) 943-9610
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Directions: Conveniently located near the junction of 17 and 92 (International Speedway Blvd.). From I-4, exit Highway 44 and go west. Turn right onto Kepler Rd, proceed to next light and turn left onto 92 (International Speedway Blvd.). The hotel is 1 mile on the left. From I-95, exit Highway 92 and go west 15 miles into Deland. The hotel is on the left.

OldHippy's Corner

Well we are now in the month of June , which translates to the beginning of the Hurricane season, the rainy season, Legislation session is over, our Memorial Event is in the past and the elections are on for the Board for S.E. Chapter of ABATE at the next meeting.

Regardless of who is running and who ends up getting elected it will be a challenge for anyone who stepped up and volunteered to be on the board. Just ask any of the past participants of the board. They have all sacrificed lots of their time and most cases monies to help keep the Chapter moving forward and the current board is no exception.

I want to give a special thanks to all the current board members and trustees for the hard work they have done for Chapter and I'm going to start out with our current Pres.

Jimmy "Les" he works, on almost a daily basis for countless hours on some form of chapter business. He is the person who is always there for any function, setting a positive image of the organization and we can always call on him for information and he helps keeps the chapter motivated and informed.

Caution!!! He has had extensive training in "Ballroom" dancing and has been known to make the rest of us look bad trying to keep up with him. (And yes I am one of those guys he makes look bad)

Jimbo, who is the VP and the Road Captain for the Chapter, he is always there for us, and is also at all the functions that we do. He has the duty of filling in for the President and also trying to get us together for group rides for fun or to events but is also responsible for leading us there without too many "ABATE U-Turns".

Alice, who has done a great job, being the Treasurer for the Chapter, which is tuff behind the scene job that doesn't get enough credit for the work effort she does for the Chapter,. She makes sure our books and finances are in order and we are in compliance with

S.E. Chapter

the State. She keeps track of every nickel and dime the Chapter brings in and spends, making sure that the State gets their required share. She is the small lady in statue that you see at our events at the gate collecting admission. At times it looks like a good gust of wind would blown her over, but. Don't let the size and friendly demeanor fool ya.... She can be tuff when it comes to doing her job and some people can attest to that.

Leo, with the help of his staff, maintains the security of Chapter equipment and has been a vital part of the success we have had at all our events. It encompasses parking, First Aide, gate and so on at the events, not counting when we are at other events. (Can't miss him, he's the one that makes it easier to find the Jimmy due to his height)

Special thanks go out to Bars (1st assistant) he done remarkable job dealing with the task associated with the Chapters equipment, such as the storage unit and coordinating the equipment used, which deals with loading/unloading of the trailer.

Paul, who is the secretary for us has the dubious job of keeping minutes of the meetings to be published in the news letter and making sure that some of the stuff a certain call girl says sometimes does not go in for publication. (If I had to do it forget it, I never was good at taking notes and making out what I wrote later)

Bret, our products guy who has the dubious task of hauling and with the help of Marjorie (she also rides to a lot of different places promoting the Chapter) sells products at events and meetings. Because if this he is forced to drive in a cage instead of riding with because of all the stuff he has to bring, which makes it hard for him to attend some of functions later after the meeting.

Karin, our animal loving German social director, who pain staking plans all our birthday parties and is always there looking out for all the members.

Suzanne, this lady is amazing to me with what duties she has taken on and what she is accomplish for the Chapter.

Let's see, News Letter Editor (that enough for any one), next is Safety Director, which along with several other members go into HS classroom to educate the new drivers and hopefully save a few bikers. Did I also mention that she also takes time off to travel and represents us at state meeting along with the other delegates? She has been the behind the scene backbone of the Chapter for some time and also does the so many little things she needs a **BIG THANKS**.

We have so many other Members to mention and I'm already over my word count that I just have to list a few of so many more.

Rick and Maureen, they have newsletter distribution and have done a superior job on these past year's events we have done. Shaky Bob always there to help any time he is called upon and can always be counted on. (We can't wait for the rebuilt Bar-B-Q that he did to be put into good use)

All the new members, old member and past board members like Chuck, BigWheel, Valerie, Squeaky, Phil, Nell, Harry, Tree, Blindman, all the Charleys, Bobs, Ricks, Susans, Sharons, Jimmys and all the names out there that I can't remember. I give you all, **A BIG THANKS!!!**

If it wasn't for all of use pulling together, this Chapter would not be as successful as it is today and in the future

I apologize for not mentioning everybody, but I'm out of space and time.

Till next time, keep the shinny side up and the greasy side down.
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OldHippy

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CAGNEY'S SALOON

WED - LADIES NITE 3rd - Yard Sale 10th - Buster Knuckles 17th - Roscoe Peterson Project 24th - Buster Knuckles July 1 - Roscoe Peterson Project	FRIDAY 8th - Backstreets 12th - Bag of Bones 19th - Dr. Strong 26th - Light-m Up with Lauren July 3rd - 3-Thirty-3	SATURDAY 6th - Backstreets (final show) 13th - Bag of Bones 20th - Dr. Strong 27th - Light-m Up with Lauren July 4th - 3-Thirty-3	SUNDAY 7th - Buster Knuckles 14th - Roscoe Peterson Project 21st - 3-Thirty-3 28th - Grant Piper 5th - Storm
---	---	---	---

THURSDAY - NEW BANDS SHOWCASE

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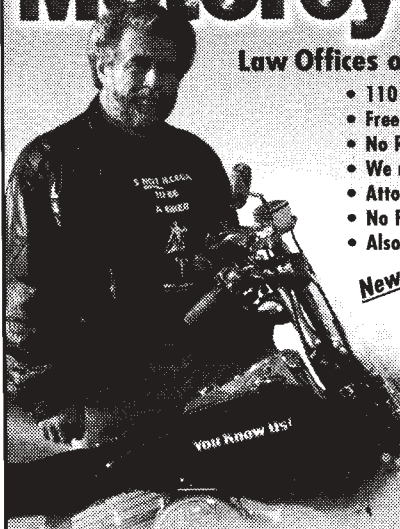
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Birthday Greetings - if you want to be recognized in the Newsletter Birthday greetings contact Karin

with your information

May's Birthday Party at the American Legion Post 321 had 50 of you celebrating according to Mike the bartender who is also a member. With great music by "The Ringerz" it was an all around special party. Thanks to Commander Bob for having the Legion provide the cakes and thanks to everyone for being there and making this Birthday Party another memorable one.

The Birthday Party for June 2009 will be at Big Dawgs on Saturday June 20th. We'll meet there between 7-8pm and for directions and the final location please listen to the hotline.

I hope to see everybody there and have a wonderful Birthday to everybody below!

- Jimmy Les Lesniak**
- Marjorie "Mama Grizz" Rheume**
- Diane Rattner**
- Peter J Mundhenk "Roadking Pete"**
- Johnny Rose**
- Jim "Mack" McAnary**
- Chuck Carlton**
- Charlene Coronado**
- Timmy "Da Man"**
- Marc Friedman**
- Sam Keeney**
- Jake Edwards "Lowjack"**
- Lionel "Pilgrim" Arista**

Remember if you name is not mentioned please contact me at 954-430-0487 or socialdirector@abatese.org

Till next month, Ride Safe and Free

Karin



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Vice President

By the time you read this article our Memorial Day Event will have come and gone. It was a great success. I'd like to thank any and all members who stepped up and helped out with the various jobs that make our event run smoothly. I would also like to thank the management and staff at Café 27 for their continued support of our chapter. Since the first event we held there they have been tremendous hosts. And finally, as always, I'd like to thank all the Motorcycle Clubs, Motorcycle Associations and Independents who attended.

Enough about the Memorial Day Event. I'd like to address the Holiday itself. If you have attended any of our Memorial Day events I am sure you have seen Veterans from Sandy Ninninger VA Nursing Home. These men and women and many more like them have sacrificed much so that we can enjoy the freedom that we have. When you see them try to visualize them as brave young people who went to far away lands to fight for their country. As a result many of them have been confined to wheel chairs for more than half their lives. They served with friends and saw them die on the battle fields. Some have come home to a Heroes Welcome while other (Vietnam Vets) have come home to be scorned and called murderers. These men did not start these wars. They did however love their country, their families and their freedom enough to make the ultimate sacrifice and defend everything they loved. So the next time you see one of these People shake their hand and say "THANK YOU!" It will mean so much to them.

Till next time Ride Safe and Free.

Ride safe and free

Jimbo

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June-09

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 AOA Treasure Cost	8	9	10	11	13	13 ABATE State Meeting Lake County
14 WOG WPB	15	16	17	18	19	20 ABATE B'day Party Big Dawgs 7pm
21 ABATE Chapter Meeting Fathers Day Petersons Alternatives Epilepsy Run	22	23	24	25	26	27 ABATE Palm Beach Event
28 WOG Miami	29	30				

July-09

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Note Date Change for Monthly Meeting			1	2	3	4 Happy Independence Day
5 USMVMC South Broward	6	7	8	9	10	10
12 ABATE Chapter Meeting States	13	14	15	16	17	18 WOM Chili Cookoff
19 Christmas in July AOA WPB	20	21	22	23	24	25 ABATE Leadership Seminars
26 ABATE Leadership Seminars Black Pistons	27	28	29	30	31	

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June 12, 13, 14, 2009 ** Lake County FL
State Board Meeting June 13th, Saturday ** starts at 12 noon
Delegates Meeting at 2:00

LOCATION: University of FL Extension Office ** AG Center *(map available at hotel)*
1951 Woodlea Road, Tavares, FL 32778



State Meeting for June 2009.
Lodging facilities in Clermont/Groveland near the S bound entrance of the Fl. Turnpike off of Hwy 27, meeting in Tavares at the University of FL's Extension Office. Be sure to pick up info for other activities planned for the weekend at the front desk when you check in.

Hotel: \$49.99plus tax. Days Inn 20390 N US Hwy 27, Clermont 34715 --- **352-429-0483**
40 rooms are blocked -reservations must be in by June 5th for this rate, mention ABATE
Check in is 3 pm. Located ½ mile south of Fl Turnpike on US 27, Clermont.

Camping: 352-429-2116 Bee's RV Resort 20260 N US Hwy 27, ¼ mile from hotel. Tent & RV camping. Friday Fish Fry, all you can eat.

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Kevin Todd: 352- 267-0298 267-0298
Casey Chapter PR/ 407-469-2455

More Maps and Info is on our chapter website <http://lake.abateflorida.com>

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JUNE
 *7 - AOA MC Treasure Coast Annual
 *13 - New Attitudes MC Annual **IT'S BACK ON!**
 *14 - Wings of Gold MC West Palm Annual
 21 - Peterson's North Staree Fathers Day Event
 21 - Alternative Epilipsy Run & Party
 27 - Palm Beach ABATE Annual Event
 *28 - Wings of Gold MC Miami Annual

JULY
 5 - USMVMC South Broward Party
 12 - States MC Lake Worth Party
 18 - Wheels of Man MC Chili Cook-Off & Party
 19 - AOA MC West Palm Party
 *26 - Black Pistons MC Ft. Laud. Annual

AUGUST
 3-9 69th Annual Sturgis Bike Week
 14, 15, 16, - 14th International South Florida Tattoo Expo
 16 - AOA MC 42nd Anniversary Party
 *23 - Wings of Gold MC Port Saint Lucie Annual
 30 - US Military Vets MC Pompano Party

SEPTEMBER
 12 - Outcast MC Party
 13 - States Pompano MC 16th Key West Tuneup Party
 18-20 - Phil Peterson's 37th Annual Key West Poker Run
 27 - Southern MC Teddy Bear Run & Party

OCTOBER
 *4 - Mystic Seven MC Annual
 11 - AOA MC Treasure Coast Party
 15-18 - Daytona Biketoberfest **DATE CHANGE**
 18 - Keltics MC Miami Party
 25 - SE ABATE 29th Annual Motorcyclists Rights Rally
 31 - Wheels of Man MC 36th Annual Halloween Party

NOVEMBER
 *1 - Alternative Ft. Laud. MC Annual
 *8 - USMVMC National 22nd Annual
 14 - Soldiers for Jesus MC West Palm Beach Party
 15 - Wings of Gold MC Palm Beach Party
 22 - CMA Memorial Event
 22 - Heaven Cycles 32nd Anniversary Party **DATE CHANGE**

DECEMBER
 *6 - 22nd Annual SFPC Christmas Toys in the Sun Run
 12 - Drawing for the Toy Run bike at H-D of Miami
 13 - ABATE West Palm Beach Party
 19 - SFLCOC Christmas Dinner Party
 20 - Calvery Chapel 10th Annual Christmas Service



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WOTR

ROAD CAPTAIN

Every Friday night our local M.C.s have open house. These are fun evenings with very hospitable hosts. I'd like to show our chapter's support by having group rides to these club houses. If you have never been to any of these club houses, you will be surprised at how these clubs have transformed warehouses into great lounges for their members and on Fridays, their guests. While I'm on the topic of M.C.s, I'd like to say thanks to all the members who have attended the various events. It is very important that we show our support to the various clubs and organizations. If we do not support them, how can we expect them to support us?

Once again, I'd like to ask anyone who has suggestions for a fun ride to contact me and possibly we can put something together. Please keep in mind that it may take time to organize a ride, so try to give enough time (2 weeks) to put it together.

Till next time Ride Safe and Free.

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

MISSOURI HELMET LAW EXEMPTION GOES TO GOVERNOR

The Missouri legislature has passed a bill modifying Missouri's mandatory helmet law to exempt persons 21 years of age or older from wearing protective headgear except when operating or riding motorcycles or motortricycles upon interstate highways.

Over the past twenty years proposals to repeal the mandatory helmet law have been controversial, but this year's measure to simply modify the law received little debate in either chamber. The House gave the bill final approval Wednesday, Apr 29 on a vote of 93-65. The bill easily passed the Senate earlier, with a 23-6 vote.

The measure now goes to Governor Jay Nixon for his final signature or veto. The helmet provision was amended onto SCS/SB 202, an act that provides that operating a motorcycle, in and of itself, shall not be considered evidence of comparative negligence in accident claims. The act also provides that when investigating an accident or settling an automobile insurance policy claim, no insurer, agent, producer, or claims adjuster of an insurer shall assign a percentage of fault to a party based upon the sole fact that the party was operating a motorcycle in an otherwise legal manner. The effective date would be August 28, 2009, and the helmet provision would expire in five years under a sunset clause.

Steve Carroll of Hannibal, MO, a spokesman for FORR-MO (Freedom of the Road Riders of Missouri) said passage of the bill is the result of a growing movement. "It's been a long time coming — in the educational process — and I think it's long overdue," he said.

Senator Luann Ridgeway, R-Smithville, who sponsored the bill in the Senate, said the helmet law was tantamount to a "nanny state making safety choices for other people." Pointing to other injury-prone activities, such as skiing, horseback riding and even riding in a car, she asked why the state doesn't require helmets for those. "Where do we draw the line in terms of a caretaker state?" she said.

S.E. Chapter

House sponsor Rep. Gary Dusenberg, R-Blue Springs, also said it was a freedom issue. The people the bill affects can "go off to war and carry guns under the flag of our country," said Dusenberg, a former highway patrol officer.

In 1999, then-Gov. Mel Carnahan vetoed a similar bill. Governor Nixon has refused to comment on the bill, but if signed into law Missouri would join 30 other states that allow most adult riders to choose regarding helmet use. Only two of the eight states surrounding Missouri mandate helmet use at all times. Neither Iowa nor Illinois has a helmet law.

HOUSE APPROVES HEALTH INSURANCE PROTECTIONS FOR MOTORCYCLISTS

The U.S. House of Representatives voted 422 to 3 on March 31st to pass HR 1253, the "Health Insurance Restrictions and Clarifications Act of 2009"; bipartisan legislation to strengthen health insurance coverage for injuries incurred while participating in legal recreational and transportation activities, such as motorcycling, riding ATVs, snowmobiling and horseback riding.

While the language falls short of closing the loophole that allows insurance companies to deny benefits to motorcycle accident victims, it does prevent them from concealing such coverage exclusions by requiring them to be "explicit and clear" in fully disclosing benefit limitations and restrictions "in a form that is easily understandable" to the enrollee in advance of the point of sale.

The bill now goes to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, and concerned riders are encouraged to contact their U.S. Senators in support of the legislation.

CPSC STAYS BAN ON SALE OF YOUTH MOTORCYCLES & ATVs

In denying a petition from the motorcycle industry to overturn a ban against the sale of youth-model motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) due to the lead content of some components such as brake parts and battery terminals, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) voted on April 17, 2009 to keep the ban in place but granted a two-year stay of enforcement to allow the continued sale of these vehicles while industry attempts to comply with the new federal lead-content rules.

Congress enacted the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 to protect children under 12 from the lead content of toys and other products intended for the youth market but,

intended or not, the ban has crippled a huge segment of the motorcycle industry, costing an estimated \$1 billion a year as more than 13,000 dealers across the country were stuck holding millions of dollars in inventory.

The two-member CPSC board voted unanimously, citing safety concerns as the reason for issuing the stay; "A bigger safety concern than lead exposure is that the elimination of youth ATV sales will likely increase the number of adult ATVs purchased to be used by younger children, therefore increasing risk of injury and death."

The stay extends through May 1, 2011, at which time the products must be brought into compliance or the industry can demonstrate to the CPSC why it is technologically infeasible to comply.

In the meantime, legislation has been introduced in Congress (H.R. 1587) by Representative Denny Rehberg (R-MT) to exempt youth-sized motorcycles and ATVs from the CPSIA. Help end the youth bike ban permanently by calling your members of the U.S. House of Representatives today and ask their support for H.R. 1587.

NEW MOTORCYCLE SALES DECLINE IN Q1

Despite six straight years of new motorcycle sales eclipsing the 1 million mark, the sagging economy has impacted U.S. sales in the first quarter of 2009 resulting in a 30.5% decline compared to the same period last year.

According to the Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC), which compiled the results based on sales figures from 12 of the leading brands, the best performing type of motorcycles were affordable, fuel-efficient dual-purpose models which only dropped by 24%. The off-highway market was hardest hit, falling by 39.7% due in part to the new federal lead-content law that banned the sale of youth models.

Scooters were more popular than ever last year, setting a record of 222,000 sold in 2008, but those too are down 36.7% for the first three months of 2009. The on-highway market declined by 27.3%.

"There are still many customers wanting new motorcycles, both veteran riders and those wanting to join in the fun and gain the benefits," said MIC president Tim Buche. "But, in reaction to the economy, there have been some production cuts. And the lead ban turned many parents away from buying new dirt bikes for their kids. There's a need for wholesale financing to help keep dealerships supplied with inventory, and a need for consumer credit to loosen up so that dealerships

can get those new bikes out on the roads and on the trails. It's very hard to get retail financing now, even if you have good credit."

The early year sales decline follows a relatively flat year for motorcycles, with sales estimates for all motorcycles and scooters sold nationwide in 2008 at 1,087,000 units, down just 3.3% from the previous year. Sales still topped the one-million mark, and did so for the sixth consecutive year, beating the longest run of million-plus sales ever recorded by the MIC, during the five years from 1970 to 1974.

WEIRD NEWS: MAN FAKES KIDNAPPING TO FIND STOLEN MOTORCYCLE

After hours of searching for a toddler whose father claimed he was attacked by motorcycle thieves who abducted the child, police arrested the Florida man for fabricating the kidnapping to get police to launch an intensive search for his stolen motorcycle.

According to The Gainesville Sun newspaper, Alachua County deputies took the 37-year old man away in handcuffs for filing a false report after his story unraveled during the manhunt and police learned that the 1-year old was safe with his mother.

Officers believe the man was the victim of thieves who posed as interested buyers and then took his gold-and-black Yamaha, so he told his wife to take their son out of day care and he then called police to report that the child had been taken.

"His thinking was if they thought my child was missing, there would be a more intensive search than for the motorcycle," a Sheriff's Office spokesman told the paper. The bike and the thieves are still at large.

MANDATORY REFLECTIVE VESTS URGED FOR FILIPINO BIKERS

The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) is proposing mandatory training and the wearing of reflector vests for motorcycle riders in an effort to curb rising deaths and injuries.

According to MMDA Chairman Bayani Fernando there is a need to "enhance the skills" of motorcycle drivers nationwide, and further suggested that the government adopt the practice in Bogota, Colombia where motorcycle drivers are mandated to use reflectorized vests to allow for greater visibility during nighttime and eliminate road mishaps.

There are now an estimated 2.5 million registered motorcycles in the Philippines, and motorcycle sales have been growing at

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NCOM CONVENTION LIGHTS UP RENO

The bright lights of the "Biggest Little City In The World" shined off the bright chrome and polish of hundreds of shiny motorcycles parked along the entranceway to John Ascuaga's Nugget Casino and Resort, as near-record crowds of concerned bikers from around the country came together in unity and cooperation for the 24th Annual National Coalition of Motorcyclists Convention, held in Reno, NV May 7-10, 2009.

The NCOM Convention, which was hosted by the Northern Nevada Confederation of Clubs, presented an opportunity for motorcyclists of every background to find common ground and focus on issues of concern to all motorcyclists. Riders learn, teach and share with one another, and coordinate with likeminded individuals and groups to forge relationships and foster communications.

Nearly 1,400 motorcyclists attended the Convention, and conventioners represented almost all major patch holding motorcycle clubs, as well as a wide array of motorcycling-oriented organizations and associations, including a majority of State Motorcyclists Rights Organizations across the country.

The NCOM Convention featured educational seminars covering such diverse topics as Biker Rights and Civil Liberties post-9/11 and the Federal Trademark Seizure threat where all club insignia are put at risk, combating Anti-Biker Discrimination, Christian Unity, Women in Motorcycling, and a host of other legislative, judicial, and lifestyle issues. NCOM also broke special ground this year with the first presentation of a seminar entitled, "The World Of Sport Bikes", which focused on issues and concerns specific to the Sport Bike Community.

The Worldwide Confederation of Clubs meeting on Friday was packed with over 900

club members expressing solidarity and a renewed commitment to work together and defend Riding Freedom.

The Convention was dedicated to the memory of longtime participants in the fight for Motorcycling Liberty who have passed from our ranks in the past year; AIM Attorney Joe "Big Guy" Eggleston, Bob Illingworth, and Robert "Grub" Chafe.

The Saturday Night events were festive, featuring the Silver Spoke Awards Banquet where recognition was given to notables in various fields who have had a positive impact on motorcycling. The Entertainment Award was given to TV and

movie actor Robert Patrick of "The Unit" and "Terminator" fame, who not only is an avid rider and ABATE of California member, but also is a Chapter President in the Boozefighters Motorcycle Club. Steve Johann of Hog Radio received the Media Award. Receiving the Silver Spoke Award for Government was Nevada Assemblyman Don Gustavson, a tireless defender of freedom of choice. The Commerce Award was presented to Clay Ridley, founder of the Ridley Motorcycle Company. Florida Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (AIM) Attorney Jerry Theophilopoulos was presented the Silver Spoke for Legal, while Special Recognition Awards were bestowed upon A.I.M. Chief of Staff Charles "Roach" Hoffman and ABATE of Wyoming's "Mileage" Mike Harrison.

Rounding out the evening's recognitions, the Ron Roloff Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Pepper Massey, former executive director of NCOM and past director of the Sturgis Motorcycle Museum/Hall of Fame and Sturgis Rally.

Attendees came away from this year's NCOM Convention with a great deal of enthusiasm and motivation to continue the fight for Motorcycling Freedom in back home in their own respective legislative, judicial, and social arenas.

Plan now to attend the 2010 Silver Anniversary NCOM Convention, next Mother's Day weekend in Orlando, Florida!

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "Just as your fortune depends upon how your money is invested, so the success of your life depends upon how your time is invested."
Leone Kester



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News & Notes

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GOVERNMENT RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

June 2009

News & Notes is a monthly publication compiled and edited by the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) Government Relations Department. Designed to inform motorcyclists of rights-related issues and events around the world, News & Notes welcomes your input. Suggestions and contributions can be sent to Sheila Andrews, AMA Legislative Assistant, by e-mail at sandrews@ama-cycle.org.

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The Vote is in! U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) stays enforcement of law banning sale of youth-model motorcycles and ATVs. The CPSC has voted to stay enforcement of a lead law that currently bans the sale of youth-model motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). The stay, which extends through May 1, 2011, follows a unanimous vote by Acting Chairwoman Nancy Nord and Commissioner Thomas Moore. The AMA Government Relations Department is currently examining the 25-page Stay of Enforcement document and will issue more details shortly.

The law in question is the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA). Designed to protect children from lead in toys that might easily end up in children's mouths, the language of the legislation has ensnared a number of products that have little exposure risk, including youth-model motorcycles and ATVs. Despite the stay, it is unclear whether state attorneys general will also decline to

enforce the CPSIA. The sale of youth-model motorcycles and ATVs is still technically illegal. Even though a stay means that dealers would not be subject to fines or penalties imposed by the CPSC, state attorneys general would still be able to prosecute violators if they chose to do so.

Source: www.amadirectlink.com/news/story.asp?id=839

KTM and FMF Racing declare May as "Protect Your Right to Ride" month. KTM North America and FMF Racing have partnered together, along with support from the AMA, BlueRibbon Coalition (BRC), National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council and the Off-Road Business Association (ORBA) to declare May "Protect Your Right to Ride" month. During the month of May, visit a KTM dealer to find out information about what you can do to protect your right to ride. Each KTM dealer will supply materials provided by the motorcyclist activist clubs and organizations that have been fighting for your rights all along.

When you visit your KTM dealer and show your AMA, BRC and/or ORBA membership card, or choose to sign up for a membership at the dealership, you will receive an entry toward a chance to win a brand new KTM 250 XC-FW with an FMF Q4 Titanium exhaust system. Participants will receive one entry for each of the organizations to which they belong. For more information, visit www.soundoffmc.com, a new website designed to provide the latest information about protecting motorized off-highway recreation.

USDA and Ad Council offer advice on getting faulty Smokey Bear ad off the air. Late last summer, after being contacted by the AMA and others, U.S. Forest Service Chief Abigail Kimbell asked media outlets to stop airing a Smokey Bear public service announcement (PSA) that unintentionally implied all all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) pose a fire hazard in national forests.

Off-highway vehicle organizations complained that the video not only implied to non-riders that ATVs start forest fires, but also sent a message to OHV riders that they should stay out of the forests during the summer.

The Forest Service has agreed to contact those stations still airing the PSA and request they stop using it, but the Forest

Service needs your help. Please contact the Forest Service with any details you may have if you see this offensive and erroneous PSA. The designated contact for this issue is Helene Cleveland, fire prevention program manager, USDA Forest Service, hcleveland@fs.fed.us. Thanks for your help in getting this inappropriate ad completely removed from the airwaves.

A group of national and state trail advocacy organizations representing equestrian, OHV, and bicycling interests recently developed a guide entitled "Sharing Our Trails - A Guide to Trail Safety and Enjoyment." The purpose of the guide is to improve safety and trail satisfaction for all trail enthusiasts on multiple-use trails. Organizations and agencies involved in the development of the guide include the American Motorcyclist Association, American Endurance Ride Conference, Americans for Responsible Recreational Access, American Trails, Back Country Horsemen of America, BlueRibbon Coalition, California State Parks Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division, Cycle Conservation Club of Michigan, Equestrian Land Conservation Resource, International Mountain Bike Association, Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics, Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association, Motorcycle Industry Council, National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council, Off-Road Business Association, Open Beaches - Trails, Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association, Specialty Vehicle Institute of America, Tread Lightly!, United Four Wheel Drive Associations and United States Forest Service. The guide can be found on numerous websites, including www.atvaonline.com/news/story.asp?id=826.

Rider Eye Tracking Research Program Announced: Dynamic Research Inc. and the Team Oregon Motorcycle Safety Program at Oregon State University have teamed up to conduct research on motorcyclists' eye tracking habits. This research, funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is currently underway. Each year, nearly half of all motorcycle fatalities are due to single vehicle crashes. Many of these crashes are due to motorcyclists' failure to negotiate curves properly. Preliminary research has shown that riders do not look far enough ahead through curves and that this might be a contributing factor of single vehicle crashes at curves. This research strives to identify the role of sight distance and rider-scanning habits in curves, hazard identification, and crash avoidance. The subject groups will be evaluated on a closed course and the open road for the initial spring 2009 testing period, then again following six months and 12 months of riding experience.

Version 2.0 of the Motorcycle Accident In Depth Study (MAIDS) is now available at www.maids-study.eu. It includes a new presentation of the data with a split between mopeds (L1) and motorcycles (L3) in both chapters, chapter 3.0 General Accident Characteristics and chapter 10.0 Rationale for Action. Furthermore, ACEM published the Multivariate Analysis of Fatal Accident in MAIDS. This report describes the results of a multivariate analysis of the in-depth motorcycle accident data collected during the MAIDS project. Data have been presented according to all powered two-wheelers (PTW), as well as L1 and L3 vehicle categories where appropriate.

There is still time to take the ATVA Rider Survey: As part of an ongoing effort to help shape the All-Terrain Vehicle Association (ATVA) into a national ATV riders' rights association, and to more effectively communicate with state and local organizations, a user survey has been created. The survey can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/c3r93x> or www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=fMQoeaRtVFZcCibYlmlwA_3d_3d. As an added incentive, respondents will be eligible to receive one of five \$50 gift certificates to Rocky Mountain ATV and Motorcycle (www.rockymountainatv.com). This survey will be accessible until May 25, 2009. Please tell every ATV rider you know that the ATVA needs their feedback to shape the future of ATVA.

Sacramento, Calif.: Senate Bill 435, sponsored by Senator Fran Pavley (D-32nd District) would mandate motorcycle smog testing for all model year 2000 and newer class III bikes (over 280cc). As proposed, the test would be implemented in 2012 despite the lack of any evidence that motorcycles are a significant source of mobile emissions statewide. In fact, California's motorcycle engine emission standards are already the strictest in the nation, and were just reduced again for model year 2008 and newer motorcycles.

Go to <http://capwiz.com/amacycle/issues/alert/?alertID=12937506> to send an e-mail to the state legislature opposing this unwarranted proposal. Current program cost estimates include spending more than \$400,000 just to modify the DMV's vehicle registration computer system to identify motorcycles that would be required to take the test.

Oceano, Calif.: A lawsuit has been filed seeking to close the popular Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (ODSVRA). The Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) recently filed a formal notice of intent to sue the California Department of Parks and Recreation over its ongoing authorization of motorized vehicle use at the popular recreation site for alleged mortality of wintering snowy

plovers, a threatened species of bird. The ODSVRA, located in southern San Luis Obispo County, includes approximately 1,500 acres of sand dunes and 5.5 miles of beach areas open for use by motorized vehicles.

The site is operated and managed by the Department of Parks and Recreation's Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division. Street-legal vehicles can be operated on the beach in the entire Recreation Area, while the southern portion is also open to off-highway vehicles and camping. The notice announced the CBD's intent to sue the Department if it fails to take action to prevent injury to snowy plovers.

Ride to Work Day turnout expected to increase. This year's 18th commuting demonstration event, to be held on Monday, June 15, is expected to double the number of riders on the road, according to Ride to Work, a non-profit advocacy organization.

According to the United States Census Bureau and the Department of Transportation, more than 80 million cars and light trucks are used for daily commuting on American roads, and about 200,000 motorcycles and scooters are a regular part of this mix. On Ride To Work Day, the practical side of riding becomes more visible as a larger number of America's 8 million cycles and scooters are ridden to work.

Ride to Work Day shows how riding makes parking easier and helps traffic flow better. Motorcycles and scooters consume fewer resources per mile than automobiles, and they take up less space in parking areas and on roads. Riders seek employer support for this form of transportation, and increased government and public awareness about riding's many benefits.

More information about Ride to Work Day can be found at: www.ridetowork.org/

Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA) fee increase proposed. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) believes that an increase in visitor fees is necessary due to the requirement to provide trash service, increased road maintenance expense, other economy-based increases, and a reduction in revenue due to reduced permit sales. This fee increase would be effective as of Oct. 1, 2009. The BLM will present its recommendations to the California Recreation Resource Advisory Committee (RRAC) on May 13, 2009, in Vallejo, Calif. Written comments can be submitted prior to the meeting for consideration by the RRAC. For more information regarding this proposal go to: www.fs.fed.us/r5/passes/rrac/meetings/may2009/blm6.php.

The Utah Trail Machine Association (UTMA), in partnership with the Utah Four Wheel Drive Association (U4WDA), is reviving its annual clean-up day at Five Mile Pass and would like to invite your organization to join them this Memorial Day weekend on Saturday, May 23, at the main Five Mile Pass staging area.

This event is being sponsored by the UTMA and the U4WDA and the organizations would like to be able to include your club as a co-sponsor. The event has the full cooperation of the Bureau of Land Management and the Department of Natural Resources. To learn more about the event, visit UTMA at www.utma.net/ and click on High Five Project at Five Mile Pass.

Source: www.utma.net/home/content/high-five-5-mile-cleanup

Rancho Cordova, Calif.: World famous Rubicon Trail to remain open. The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board voted unanimously to issue a Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) to El Dorado County and the Eldorado National Forest for the Rubicon Trail that sustains continued motorized recreation while also enhancing stewardship of the trail. More than 300 recreationists were present at the recent public hearing, providing a reminder to members of the water board just how much members of the public care about this cherished trail. The revised CAO is a much less prescriptive order than originally proposed, and calls for general consideration and planning but does not mandate specific actions, instead requiring the county and the Forest Service to work together to meet the specified timelines.

Source: www.rubicontrailfoundation.org/
AMA Government Relations *News & Notes* is a monthly service compiled and edited by the AMA Government Relations Staff to keep motorcyclists informed of happenings around the world. We welcome your news & views. Please submit all material to Sheila Andrews, Legislative Assistant, 101 Constitution Ave., NW Suite 800W, Washington, DC 20001; fax (202) 742-4304 or e-mail to sandrews@ama-cycle.org.

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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.

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