

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

A Newsletter for Motorcycle Safety & Awareness



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Send to Ada"Abby Normal" Hibbs at: news.abatese@gmail.com

To Advertise in this Publication, please contact: Sheila Rose at: (786) 487-4810) Email: billing.abatese@gmail.com, or any B.O.D. Member in this list. (See page 40 for Application)

ABATE of Florida, Inc - Southeast Chapter

FLORIDA AND VULNERABLE ROAD USERS

A vulnerable road user (VRU) is anyone who is on or alongside a roadway without the protective hard covering of a metal automobile. The term includes bicycle riders, pedestrians, motorcyclists, people in wheelchairs, police, first responders, roadway workers and other users like a person on a skateboard or scooter. It is meant to include people who are especially at risk of serious bodily harm if hit by a car, SUV or truck.

The term is commonly used in relation to the argument state laws need to give sentencing judges more ability to up the punishment imposed on a driver who injures a vulnerable road user. Florida currently has no such law. It is very common for a driver who kills or seriously injures a VRU to just be given a ticket for careless driving. In recent years, there have been several well publicized accidents in Florida cities involving a distracted driver striking and killing a pedestrian or cyclist. Some of these horrible crashes, resulted in the driver simply getting a small fine. Judges have complained the law gives them no ability to impose a greater punishment when the driver was not also convicted of a crime such as DUI, leaving the scene of an accident with injury or reckless driving.

Many groups are working to have the Legislature pass a Vulnerable Road User law to give Florida judges the ability to impose jail time and increased fines in these cases where they are cited with only a moving violation. One of the best-known laws is the one enacted in Oregon. Many consider it a model for other states.

Oregon's VRU Law

Oregon's Vulnerable Roadway User (VRU) Law is not a stand-alone law. It is an enhanced penalty that can be levied when a driver violates Oregon's Careless Driving law and in doing so causes physical injury to, or the death of, a vulnerable roadway user.

If a person drives carelessly, meaning in a manner that endangers or would be likely to endanger ANY person or property then they can be charged with violation or ORS 811.135 with the VRU enhancement. The enhancement allows a court to sentence the driver to complete a traffic safety course and perform up to 200 hours of community service related to driver improvement. If the driver fails to perform the sentence the court is allowed to levy a fine of up to \$12,500 and suspend the driver's license for one year

For current status of VRU bills in Florida, go to: https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2020/308/ ByVersion

https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2020/455



WHO WE ARE

- ABATE of Florida, Inc. is 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, and political awareness.
- We fund our work by holding a series of annual events at different locations within our service area and other motorcycle activities.
- We are your neighbors and 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.
- ABATE of Florida, Inc. is incorporated under the laws of Florida as a motorcycle rights organization or MRO. We are currently the only political MRO in Florida representing the interest of its members and the motorcycling public at-large.
- WE ARE NOT A CLUB OR A GANG.

ABATE is open to all individuals age 18 and older interested in motorcycle rights, safety or education. It doesn't matter what you ride or even if you ride. Everyone is welcome to join ABATE of Florida, Inc., which ensures YOUR opinion and views on motorcycle laws will be heard.

There are no requirements to join us and we respect and welcome all motorcycle clubs or any other motorcycle associations or organizations. We do not have any mandatory meetings or rides.

Paid Membership Includes:



- ABATE Voting Privileges
- Free \$4,000 Accidental Death or Dismemberment Insurance Policy from the American Income Life Insurance Company. As long as your membership is current, you are covered.
- Free classified advertising in the Southeast Chapter and State ABATE newsletters.
- Motorcycle Safety and Educational Updates.
- A full-time ABATE of Florida, Inc. Lobbyist who fights for your rights at the state and national levels.

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ABATE of Florida,Inc. PO Box 2520 Deland, FL 32721-2520 (386) 943-9610 www.abateflorida.com



Some of ABATE of Florida, Inc.'s Accomplishments

• On July 1, 2000, we had the 30 year old Florida Helmet law repealed; July 1, 2010 was our 10th Anniversary of Freedom of Choice.

• We've become the 4th largest State Motorcycle Rights Organization (MRO) in the country (IN & IL are 1&2, we regularly switch for 3rd & 4th with PA).

• We got the handlebar heights law modified.

• We successfully fought a bill that would forbid our children from riding on our bikes.

• We successfully fought the bill that would confiscate motorcycles for going 30MPH over the speed limit.

• We developed an effective MSAP program that has raised motorist's perceptions and awareness of motorcycles, and have received funding from the State of FL totaling over \$750,000 to promote motorcycle safety and awareness.

• We successfully fought the bill against vertical tags that had over \$1,100 in fines for a first offense.

• Supported and fought for a texting-while-driving ban for the last few years.

• Our 2009-2010 Stiffer Penalties Bill made it through five of the FL House & Senate's committees; this is the farthest it has gone in the number of years we have tried. On the last day of session, a committee member strenuously attempted to attach a revival of the helmet law to our Bill. To avoid a new helmet law in Florida, we had to kill the Bill.

• We publish monthly Press Releases and/or Articles of Interest in many online & print publications, including Florida Full Throttle.

• The President of ABATE of Florida, Inc. has been asked to be on and currently sits as a member of The Motorcyclist Advisory Council (MAC) to the Federal Highway Administration in Washington, D.C. The Secretary of the U.S. Dept. of Transportation may appoint a representative from only two State MROs throughout the entire U.S.A. to be on this council.

• The President of ABATE of Florida, Inc. sits as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Collation of Motorcyclists (NCOM). NCOM has over 1000 member organizations.

For more information: Contact the President of the Southeast Chapter Johnny Rose 954-868-4390

> pres.abatese@gmail.com Or visit our website: www.abatese.org

Coming Soon!!!!!

ABATE Of Florida, Inc...Lake County Chapter's Campground- Open to the Public for Leesburg BikeFest™

Campground is off of Hwy 27 & CR 48 --6 miles S from downtown LSBG. Coming from N on 27 pass CR 33 & Turn Right- onto CR 48. at gas station, by light. Riding south on 27, turn left at the light onto CR48, look for signs.

RVs Welcome \$20 & Trailers \$10 one time Fee NO hook ups- NO Reservations- <u>Cash Only</u>

*24 Hr Security *Hot Showers *Bike Blessing *50/50 & Prizes *Blood Mobile *NO PETS

*VENDORS

DATES: April 23-24-25-26th --- -2020 WHERE: 27150 Haywood Worm Farms Rd Okahumpka 34762 Eagles Aerie # 4273 TIME: gates open Thurs 7 am <u>NO Early arrivals</u> Gates close Sunday at noon. COST: \$15. pp, per nite -Includes Tax Kids 10 & under FREE – Can NOT accept reservations – CASH ONLY

ABATE of Florida, Inc, Lake web: http://lake.abateflorida.com/

*Live Bands @ 8pm <u>Thur:</u> TBA <u>Fri:</u> TBA <u>Sat:</u> Jackson County * Tiki Bar

*Sat Poker Run

*Food available @ Eagles Aerie

ABATE OF FLORIDA, Inc. Lake County Chapter and its affiliates of the Leesburg BikeFest ABATE campground will not be held responsible financially or otherwise for any adverse weather conditions that may affect, delay or cancel any scheduled performance-event described herein this promotional flier. Join ABATE of Florida, Inc & receive \$4,000 accidental death INS. Our rights as motorcyclists are constantly being challenged at an alarming rate; every motorcycle enthusiast should belong to a Motorcycle Rights Organization (MRO).

Take-A-Break Poker Run - Saturday

Sign up outside of ABATE campground from 9:30-11. Last bike back to campground 4:00, Plaques awarded--- \$10 pp. *About 100 mile ride. A percentage to benefit VORRH, the homeless Vets www.vorrh.orgg NO site fires NO Weapons NO Pets NO Attitudes NO EXCEPTIONS

Pres: Griz 352-516-4240 LakeAbatePresident@gmail.com VP: MARCUS 321-607-2516 LakeAbateVicePresident@gmail.com Looking for Vendors, contact Rich LakeAbatePR@gmail.com

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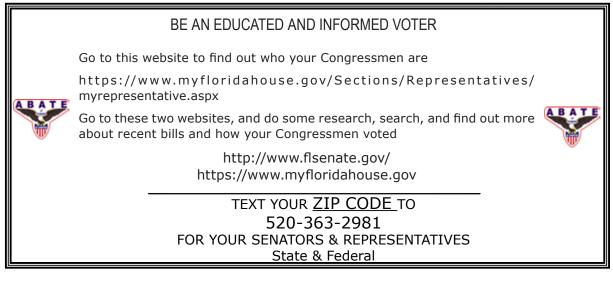


FLORIDA PRIMARY 2020: MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

2020 is a big election year, and although the general election isn't until November, the Presidential Preference Primary is rapidly approaching.

Florida Democrats will be voting in the presidential primary this month -- and it remains a tight race. The ballot for the Primary vote lists 16 names, however there are only eight still in the running: Joe Biden, 77, served as Vice President from 2009 to 2017 after nearly four decades serving as a senator from Delaware, Michael Bloomberg, 77, served as New York City mayor from 2002 to 2013, Pete Buttigieg, 38, has served as mayor of South Bend, Indiana, since 2012, Tulsi Gabbard, 38, has served as a US congresswoman from Hawaii's second district since 2013, Amy Klobuchar, 59, served as a US senator from Minnesota since 2007, Bernie Sanders, 78, served as a US representative for 16 years before being elected to the Senate in 2006 where he currently represents the state of Vermont, Tom Steyer, 62, a billionaire donor and liberal activist, and

Continued on page 20-



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Memberships Due for March 2020

Armando Almanza Bernard Carr **Barry Crown** Gene Fiamma Alex Kato Dale Kirk Len Maniscalco LeeRoy Meyers Robert Michael Dorinda Paikoff Ray Purcell Joe Robens **Bob Smith** Albert Soler Hope Travis Mike Travis Carla Wandersee Walter Wandersee Ernst Wasser Ronald Winn



Fred Ackerman Arnold Bessinger Gabriel Davalos Keven Deverow Lester Easley III **Delores Ferrer** Lavelle Gordon Terence Hoof Nigel James Gaetan Kernizan Alonza Mozell III Austin Nettgen **Rashad Nicholls** Miqueas Nunez Mitch Packer Jennifer Petrillo Freddeie Rodriguez-Landrau Jemol Tanner David Weinstein Arthur West, Jr.

ABATE

If you have already



for your continued support

For Membership Renewals contact Sheila Rose by either email:

membershipse.abatese@gmail.com

or by phone: 786-487-4810 - See Page 50 for Membership Application. * PLEASE NOTE *

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 changes.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: On or by the 2nd Sunday of each month for articles, ads, flyers, etc.



<u>From Your President</u>



Apparently, the little dog's magic even works in Tallahassee. I put Diddles in a pouch on my chest, with her helmet and goggles on, and we went into the Capital, for the ABATE 23rd Annual Freedom Rights Ride this month. We were we able to meet with some of our key lawmakers, including the Speaker of the House, Jose Oliva. We were just standing there, by the elevator, when the Speaker came out of it, and stopped to look at Diddles. That was when we were able to tell him what Bills ABATE was pushing for. And one of his aides was pulling at him, saying he was late, but he stayed and let us have our say and wrote down the Bills that we want to have passed.

That was really cool of him, so thank you Mr. Speaker. So, the little dog got another 938 miles under her belt, I mean collar, riding up and back to Tallahassee. That brought her to over 58,000 miles on a bike.

The weather for the ride was perfect, not to cold and not too hot. We took the Turnpike, then I-75, then I-10. While on the steps of the State Capitol, ABATE did the ringing of the bell for the brothers and sisters that were lost this past year. We were able to get the names in, for our community, Jimmy D (Outlaws MC), Perv (Mystic Seven MC), Pepsi (States MC), Snake, Don Meadows, Big Ang, and Siren (Scurvy Few MC).

I'll tell you what though, I thought it was a little embarrassing that we had less than a hundred bikes there. How are we going to show the lawmakers in Tallahassee that we should be listened to, if we show up with less than a hundred bikes, just sayin.....?

Last year, and this one so far, have been tough. I looked up to Big Ang, and Perv, and Pepsi, and Jimmy D. We also lost a sweet, kind, and happy lady, Siren. RIP, may they all Ride in Peace.

This month, so far, we went down to Dirty Dozen, Homestead Military Vets MC party. It was great, except for the rain. My wife won 4 raffle prizes. And this past weekend, we went to the Outlaws MC Annual Valentine Party. It was a beautiful day there. It was good to see everyone coming out and supporting each other at these parties.

We signed up over 30 new members in January. Thank you all for supporting us. We are always looking for more people to help us, so if you have a little time you could spare and you want to help, please contact me. We always have so much fun. The more members we have to help us, the easier it will be for everyone.

And to the younger people out there, you have the chance to inherit an organization that stands up and fights for biker rights and safety. Help us make a difference, now, and for the future!

ANYONE WHO RIDES SHOULD BE A MEMBER OF ABATE!!!!

God bless America!!!!

Peace, Johnny Rose President





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Southeast Chapter Meeting Minutes Held at the AMERICAN LEGION POST 142 171 SW 2nd Street, Pompano Beach, FL February 16, 2020

Mike Travis called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM. There were 24 members present. The meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer by our Chaplin, Chrissy.

President's Report:

Johnny opened the meeting by thanking everyone for showing up in such nasty weather. He spoke about the Freedom Rights Ride to Tallahassee and how good it was. Our smallest "member", Diddles, actually met the Speaker of the House and broke the ice for the other members to talk to him briefly about bills that affect bikers. Our current Sergeant at Arms, Nighthawk, due to illness, will no longer be able to serve in that position and gave Johnny a verbal resignation. Johnny appointed Mike Travis to the position and called for a Vote of Confidence, all were in favor. There is a Go Fund Me set up for Steve Chomiak "Nighthawk" to help with his medical expenses and flyers with info are on the front table. Mike "Rogue" Hager has been reappointed as our Webmaster by Johnny, with the State's approval, and Amber "Dark Angel" also gave Johnny a verbal resignation. A Vote of Confidence was called for him and all were in favor. Johnny spoke briefly about the upcoming Chapter elections and the nominations will begin in April. Yes, it's almost that time again.

Vice-President's Report:

Wavy also spoke on the Tallahassee Ride and how important it is. So, start saving money and time for next year's ride, which will be in April next year. Wavy read the letter that Clare & Clive sent to Doc about our Chapter at the Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show and how pleased they were with all of our help.

Secretary's Report:

Marie said that the Minutes from the last meeting are printed in the newsletter. A motion was made to accept the minutes as printed. Seconded, no discussion, all in favor; Motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Sheila read the Financial Report. A motion was made to accept the Financial Report, seconded, all were in favor, Motion was passed. She also read the recap of the profits from our 40th Semi-Annual Party and the Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show.

Sergeant at Arms Report:

Mike thanked everyone for all their help at the Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show. He also reminded us to slow down in school zones.

Road Captain's Report:

Troy reported all went well for Tallahassee, everyone stayed in their space with no problems. Zach mentioned next year's Tallahassee Ride.

Safety Director's Report:

Wavy mentioned he was able to get supplies from Pilgrim at Lake County because they had extras. He spoke about bikers cutting in and out cutting people off in traffic.

Products Report:

Laurel (Little Bit) reported she will have products and she did a bang-up job selling products at the Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show. At next month's meeting, we will be having a t-shirt sale to clean up the inventory. All t-shirts will be \$10

ABATE of Florida, Inc - Southeast Chapter

and long sleeves will be \$15.

Events Coordinator:

Gabe was not present so Johnny spoke about the May event and he and Wavy will be meeting with the Commander of American Legion Post 142 next week.

State Representative Report:

Zach reported we lost another chapter, Seminole closed. The current State Board is running unopposed for this year's elections. The next State meeting is in Naples April 11th, and St. Augustine for June.

Membership Report:

Sheila read the membership report and reported we have over 700 members in our Chapter. We had over 30 new members for January.

Newsletter Editor:

Ada (Abby Normal) mentioned things are going great, just keep getting her lots of pix's. If you need to correct something email her, please. Please send ads in jpeg format.

Legislative Report:

Brad spoke on the bills that died in the Senate and the others that had no action (No Fault Insurance, Traffic Bill, Cell Phone Bill).

<u>Legal Counsel:</u> Brad had nothing to report.

Public Relations:

Fern was not present to report but the Hot Line is up and running. There was discussion about keeping the Hot Line or switching services

Billing and Invoicing:

Sheila reported that all advertisers are up to date. Please ask businesses that you frequent, to advertise, to support our Chapter.

Social Director Report:

Bear brought yummy brownies and cheesecake goodies

Newsletter Distribution:

Wavy was present and mentioned he will be needing help in

March for personal reasons. A few members volunteered to take parts of his route.

Quartermaster Report:

Bob was not present to report, but Johnny said he is up and walking. It was nice to see him at the Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show.

Photographer's Report:

Boatman Barry said he took lots of pictures from the Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show and other events.

Webmaster's Report:

Rogue was not present, so Johnny reported for him. All is running and up to date.

Chaplain"s Report:

Chaplain Chrissy spoke about treasuring people. You never know when your number is up so go out of your way to say Hi to people or make a call to say Hello.

Old Business:

Johnny thank everyone for the fabulous door prizes we had at our Semi-Annual Event and thank you to American Legion Post 180, for allowing us to hold the event there.

New Business:

Our upcoming May Memorial Day Event was discussed. The brick for Angelo was also discussed.

Good of the Order:

AOA Valentine Party after the meeting, Wheels of Man Poker Run February 22nd, barbeque for the volunteers at the Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show on the afternoon of February 22nd, State Meeting in Naples, April 13th, Leesburg Campground for the Bike Fest in April. We had a guest, Vincent Parlatore, who is running for House Rep 101. He spoke on his bio and his campaign

"Sad" of the Order:

Siren from Scurvy Few MC lost her life in a motorcycle accident. Jimmy D from the South Florida Outlaws MC also passed from illness. Our condolences and sympathy to all the brothers and sisters of them both.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was called for, seconded, all were in favor. Next Chapter meeting will be at the American Legion Post 142, In Pompano Beach, March 15, 2020, and they are serving a full menu for breakfast.

See you on the Road Marie Baxter, Secretary





Southeast Chapter





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I GOT THIS :)

It seems like we have more stresses than ever. Not only me, but everyone around me is either hitting hard times or facing obstacles like never before. I don't know about you, but my plate is full. This month, I'd like to share some practical ways to help lift the burden you've been carrying.

So many 'worry-free' quotes come to mind. People spit them out almost automatically... "More smiling; less worrying." "If you worry, you die; if you don't worry, you still die, so why worry." "Same s%#\$, different day." "Everything happens for a reason." "Learn to just let go." While these sayings may ease the stress for a moment, I want something that's true and lasts.

The first place I go is to the scriptures. Our best example is Jesus who probably dealt with the hardest of times. He said this: "And everything I've taught you is so that the peace which is in me will be in you and will give you great confidence as you rest in me. For in this unbelieving world you willexperience trouble and sorrows, but you must be courageous, for I have conquered the world!" (John 16:33) I'm comforted in this as He doesn't sugar coat reality but reminds us we WILL have trials. Knowing the truth before it happens is half the battle. The answer here is trusting Him, knowing He carried off the victory and made us more than conquerors through the cross.

In Matthew 11:28, Jesus asks, " Are you weary, carrying a heavy burden?" Then in the next several verses He very simply answers, "Then come to me. I will refresh your life, for I am your oasis. Simply join your life with mine. Learn my ways and you'll discover that I'm gentle,humble, easy to please. You will find refreshment and rest in me. For all that I require of you will be pleasant and easy to bear."

I wish I could tell you that believing in Jesus will take away all your heartaches, that you won't have trouble, or pain will disappear. But quite the contrary. So, why give Him your heart? Because He always comes to those who call out to Him. He gives wisdom to those who ask, and rest to all those who call Him Lord.

I recently had a conversation with an MC sister here in our MC community. She and her husband are walking through serious hard times. Because of a past motorcycle wreck, they have been literally hit on every front including physical, financial, and

emotional setbacks. I asked her what she does to battle the stresses she faces and she said this:

"Every night before I fall asleep, I lay in my bed and imagine God cups His hands before me. Then I gently place each person and problem into His hands, asking God to help me with all that we are facing." One by one, she says, "What about the electric bill, God?" And she places this concern in His hands. "What about the house payment, God?" Again, she places it in His cupped hands. "What about food?" And He says, "Easy... I've got you covered . Now, go to sleep. You need your rest. You can't work, or take care of your husband and live life if you're stressed out about everything. Roll over and get some sleep. I GOT THIS."

The next time you're troubled, free-fall into Him. Draw close and listen for that still, small voice who faithfully says, I GOT THIS :)

Chrissy Leonhardt, Chaplain

Pour out all your worries and stress upon Him and leave them there, for He always tenderly cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7





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Troy Waugh

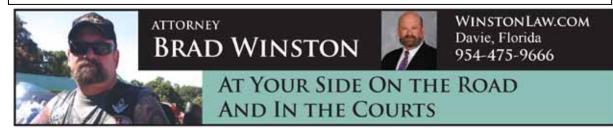
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Good Day,

I would like to thank the Biker Community for all the support they give to ABATE, especially the MC's. Also thank you to all the advertisers in our newsletter, they help keep our newsletter going and I hope they get something out of it to help their business. So let's support these businesses so they can continue to help support us. Even though sometimes it is easier and maybe cheaper to buy from the internet, we really need to support our local small businesses.

Our newsletter has started up a sponsorship page where your name will be at the top of a page. You can find all the information you need, if you are interested, in this and every newsletter. This is another way "we" can help with the cost of this informative newsletter as the cost keeps going up, like everything. So if you can, and you want to see you name in our newsletter, check it out.

This is the only newsletter in town that keeps you informed and up to date with the events and legislative news that is important to our biker community.

Thank you, Jon "Wavy" Viger Vice-President







HOTLINE

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(954-480-3100)

Information needs to be to Fern before midnight Sundays for that week's Hotline. Email Flyer or info to: *Rkinrobin1@bellsouth.net* **954-573-7573** (Landline)

From Our Road Captains

Tallahassee ABATE Freedom Ride

What a great experience it was to be a part of the 2020 Annual ABATE Tallahassee Freedom Ride. It was great to spend some time with the other ABATE Chapter members from around the state. The highlight of the trip was the ride going to the State Capital where we were able to meet with Senators and Representatives to discuss issues and advocate Motorcycle rights and safety awareness.

During the 30 mile group ride of around 70 bikes or more thundering down the highway to the Capital, it kept reinforcing to me how important it is when riding in a group "To Stay in your Place and Your Position". It is critical when riding in a group to know your assigned spot in the formation and stay there. Not only for your safety but for all others as well.

All it takes is one rider to go AWOL to create mass confusion or cause a potential major accident. We have all seen it, one rider continually sways across the lane back and forth, then decides to switch lanes early ahead of the group because they know the turn is coming up. Then for some reason slows down, realizes the error of falling behind and twists the throttle to catch back up causing a rubber band effect for the whole formation, let alone allowing a few cagers to potentially fill the open spot.

Make sure you understand that each formation has a specific place you should be located depending on your position in the line. Understanding the different riding formations and individual locations prior to going on a group ride is essential for a safe journey. Besides, no one wants to become roadkill because someone never took the time to learn, lost focus, or decided not to follow along. One of the safest things one can do, and best ways to earn trust and respect from your fellow bikers, is to stay in your place and position.

It was truly inspiring to ride along with the other experienced ABATE members for the ride went flawless. What a sense of brotherhood it was to be a part of that large of a pack of Bikers, perfectly riding in tight formation down the highway. It looked like a force to be reckoned with when we arrived in the courtyard at the steps of the Capital.

I'm already looking forward to next years Freedom Ride.

Your Road Captains, Zak and Troy

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Continued from page 6------

Elizabeth Warren, 70, has served as a US senator general election. from Massachusetts since 2013.

There may be even fewer come election day. If any of them hope to get their party's presidential nomination, they are going to have to break out from the pack. That puts more attention on Florida Democrats, especially those in South Florida. One out of every three registered Democrats in Florida is in South Florida.

The supervisor of elections office said all 16 will be on the ballot in March, so make sure you keep up with who's dropped out.

WHAT IS THE PRIMARY ELECTION?

The Primary Election is held 11 weeks before the General Election for purposes of nominating party nominees to be voted for in the General Election to fill a national, state, county, or district office. The 2020 Presidential Preference Primary Election is part of the nominating process in Florida for the United States presidential elections. In the PPP, voters registered with one of Florida's major political parties express their preference for the presidential candidate they would like to see representing their party on the General Election ballot in November.

A General Election is held in November of every even-numbered year. The election dates for 2020 are:

- Presidential Preference Primary Election: March 17
- Primary Election: August 18
- General Election: November 3

HOW FLORIDA'S PRIMARY WORKS

The State of Florida has a closed primary system. This means in order to vote in the primary, you must already be a registered party member with one of Florida's major political parties. So, you have to be registered with the Democratic Party to vote in the Democratic Primary or registered with the Republican Party to vote in the Republican Primary.

Registered independents and unaffiliated voters are excluded from participating in the party nomination contests and can't vote until the 20

For more information on the Florida primary, go to

https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/ quick-facts-presidential-preference-primary/



STEVE CHOMIAK GO FUND ME NIGHTHAWK

Steve Chomiak, Nighthawk, is an Air Force veteran and has fallen on hard times and needs your help! He was recently diagnosed with prostate cancer that has already metastasized o his spine. Due to all the medical bills and not being able to work for an indefinite amount of time, any donations would be more than greatly appreciated! Thank you in advance!

He is also a long-time active member and Sargent-At-Arms for ABATE of Florida, Southeast Chapter. Many know him from the South Florida Tattoo Expo, the SFPC Toys in the Sun Run, and many other events in the community, where he has volunteered and helped others. Let's help him now!!

https://www.gofundme.com/f/steve-chomiak-cancer-relief-





ABATE of Florida, Inc - Southeast Chapter

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ABATE of Florida, Inc.

STATE MEETING Hosted By: Southwest Chapter Saturday, April 11, 2020

12:00 pm - Board Meeting 2:00 pm - Delegates' Meeting

Meeting Location & Hotel: Comfort Inn & Executive Suites, 3860 Tollgate Blvd., Naples, FL 34114; (239) 353-9500; \$98.99 plus tax – mention ABATE of Florida.

RESERVATIONS AT HOTEL MUST BE MADE BY MARCH 10, 2020.

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING LOCATION HOTEL:

From 1-75 South, take Exit 1001 for Colline Blvd. Make a right onto Colline Blvd. Use the left 2 lazes to turn left onto Beck Blvd. Turn left onto Tollgate Blvd. The Comfort Inn & Executive Soites is stnight alread.

From 1-75 North, take Exit 101 for Collier Blvd. Make a left onto Collier Blvd. Use the left 2 lanes to turn onto Back Blvd. Turn left nata Tollgate Blvd. The Condist Ian & Executive Suites is straight alead.



QUESTIONS - CALL ROBB RABELL - 239-699-1073 ABATE of Florida, Inc. does not condone drinking and driving. Dunations to ABATE of Florida, Inc. are not deductible for Federal Income Tax Purposes. A copy of the Official Registration and Financial Information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toil-free within the State. Registration does not imply endperement, approval, nor recommendation by the State. www.300heigtfa.com 1-800-435-7352

ABATE of Florida, Inc - Southeast Chapter

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AT YOUR SIDE On the Road



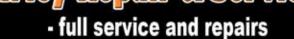


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SPONSOR THIS PAGE PROGRAM...see.page 33 for detail WEEKLY EVENTS

ABATE Southeast Chapter Safety and Membership Booth will be at :

2nd Tuesday of the month: Thursday before the Chapter Meeting Cycle Gear Bike Nite 5-7PM ABATE SE Chapter EBoard Meeting



<u>SUNDAY</u>

> Free pool at Sharkey's Lounge Margate
 > Wind Rider Church Services at Mickey's

MONDAY >Ladies Nite at Sharkey's 9pm-2am 2-for-1 drinks

<u>₩EDNESDAY</u> >Blues Nite at Mickey's

THURSDAY >Mickey's Bike & Cruise Night 7:30PM

<u>FRIDAY</u> >4th Fri - Fly-in Wheels Open House

<u>SATURDAY</u> >2nd Sat - Fly-in Wheels Open House





MONDAY KARAOKE AT 8pm TUESDAY OPEN MIC OUTSIDE AT 7pm LIVE MUSIC INSIDE AT 6pm WEDNESDAY LIVE MUSIC BY SHANNON BATTLE AT 6pm THURSDAY BIKE NIGHT LIVE BANDS AT 8pm FRIDAY QUESTIONABLE NIGHT OF FUN:

SATURDAY OUESTIONABLE NIGHT OF FUN!

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICE AT 11am THEN IT'S BLOODY MARY SUNDAY!

EVERY HOUR! IS HAPPY HOUR AT MICKEY'S TIKI BAR!

Mickey's Tiki Bar 350 SW 12th Ave, Pompano Beach, Fl 33069 (954) 532-2998

2020

MARCH

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	3	3 24	17 18 3 24	SE Chapter EBoard Meeting 17 18 19 33 24 25 26	10 11 12 13 Image: Second Meeting Sec Chapter Image: Second Meeting 20 Image: Second Meeting

SEE PAGE 28 FOR OTHER WEEKLY EVENTS ADDITIONAL INFO, EVENTS OR PARTIES ARE LISTED HERE

TUESDAY	FRIDAY
Wings of Gold MC Open House Ft Lauderdale 7PM	Der Krieger MC Open House - 8PM
States MC Taco Tuesday 6:30-9PM	Mystic Seven MC- Open House - 8PM Scurvy Few MC Open House at 7:30PM
	States MC - Fri Night Pizza 6-8PM
	1 st & 3 rd Fri - Kingdom of Brothers MC Open House
	2 nd Fri- US Military Vets Dirty Dozen MC Open
THURSDAY	4 th Fri - Fly-In Wheels Open House 9PM
1st & 3rd Thurs - Leathernecks MC Open House 8-mid	Fearless MC Open House 8PM-1AM
Hermandad MC Open House, 8PM-2AM	
Scurvey Few MC Texas Holdem/Karaoke -7:30PM	
	SATURDAY
	1 st & 3 rd Sat - AOA MC Dania Open House 8PM
	2 nd & 4 th Sat - Kingdom of Brothers MC Open House
	2 nd SatScurvy Few Monthly Birthday Party
	2 nd Sat - Fly-In Wheels Open House 9PM
	Last Sat -Leatherneck MC Charity Poker

HOTLINE DEADLINE: Information needs to be to Fern before midnight Sundays for that week's Hotline. Email Flyer or info to: Rkinrobin1@bellsouth.net 954-573-7573 (Landline)

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: On or by the 2nd Sunday of each month for articles, ads, flyers, etc.

APRIL

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	21	3	4
5 MYSTIC SEVEN MC - PARTY	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 CMA - EASTER SERVICE	13	14	15	16 SE Chapter EBoard Meeting	17	18
19 ABATE SE Meetingl STATES MC - ANNUAL	20	21	22	23	24 LEESBURG BIKEFESTt	25 →
26 LEESBURG BIKEFEST	27	28	29	30		

SEE PAGE 28 FOR OTHER WEEKLY EVENTS ADDITIONAL INFO, EVENTS OR PARTIES ARE LISTED HERE

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THURSDAY 1st & 3rd Thurs - Leathernecks MC Open House 8-mid Hermandad MC Open House, 8PM-2AM Scurvey Few MC Texas Holdem/Karaoke -7:30PM	Fearless MC Open House 8PM-1AM SATURDAY 1 st & 3 rd Sat - AOA MC Dania Open House 8PM 2 nd & 4 th Sat - Kingdom of Brothers MC Open House 2 nd Sat - Scurvy Few Monthly Birthday Party 2 nd Sat - Fly-In Wheels Open House 9PM Last Sat -Leatherneck MC Charity Poker

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: On or by the 2nd Sunday of each month for articles, ads, flyers, etc.

"This page sponsored by Johnny & Sheila Rose"



<u>MARCH</u>

1st-SunHERMANDAD MC - ANNUAL6th-15th7th DAYTONA BIKE WEEK17th-TueSt. Patrick's Day21st-SatUS MILITARY VETS MC CH.1 - PARTY28-SatFly-In Wheels Annual29th-Sun

<u>APRIL</u>

5th-SunMYSTIC SEVEN MC - PARTY12th-SunCMA - EASTER SERVICE19th-SunSTATES MC - ANNUAL24th-26thLEESBURG BIKEFEST

<u>MAY</u>

2nd-Sat3rd-SunSOUTHERN MC - ANNUAL9th-SatOUTCAST MC - ANNUAL10th-SunMothers day16th-SatLEATHERNECKS MC - PARTY17th-Sun23th-Sat23th-SatS.E. ABATE - MEMORIAL DAY EVENT25th-MonMemorial Day30th-SatNEW ATTITUDES MC - ANNUAL

<u>JUNE</u>

6th-SatAOA SOUTH FLORIDA MEMORIAL GBNF 1%ers7th-SunWINGS OF GOLD MC FT. LAUD. - PARTY13th-SatMIDNIGHT CLUB REAPERS MC - ANNAUL14th-Sun20th-Sat20th-SatEathers Day27th-SatUS MILITARY VETS MC S. BROWARD - ANNUAL

28th-Sun

<u>JULY</u>

4th-Sat	Independence Day
12th-Sun	ALTERNATIVE MC - ANNUAL
19th-Sun	SOLDIERS FOR JESUS MC BROWARD -
	ANNUAL
25th-Sat	WHEELS OF MAN MC - CHILI COOK-OFF
<u>AUGUST</u>	
1st-Sat	
2nd-Sun	

 7th-16th
 80th STURGIS MOTORCYCLE RALLY

 14th-16th
 SOUTH FLORIDA TATTOO CONVENTION

 16th-Sun
 AOA FT. LAUD. -51st ANNIVERSARY PARTY-MOLDY'S B-DAY PARTY

 23rd-Sun
 SCURVY FEW MC - ANNUAL

 30th-Sun
 SOUTHERN MC - TEDDY BEAR RUN



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The month of March isn't just about crazy holidays like St. Patrick's Day or the start of spring. It's the best month for basketball! March madness comes to mind. And according to the Cleveland clinic is the best month for vasectomies, which are up 50% during the first week of March madness. Figure that one out?

Somewhere around March 13 Daylight Savings time begins, freeing us all from the constant refrain, "it's dark before I even leave work!"

And we all love the day after Easter, otherwise known as the 'gorge your self on discount Easter candy Monday.'

We've all heard the warning Beware the Ides of March. Shakespeares warning to Julius Caesar. The Emperors famous murder has forever been associated with danger and bad omens

March is famously remembered for the disappearance of the Lindbergh baby. In 1932 on the evening of March 1, aviator Charles Lindbergh was at home with his wife and 20 month old son Charles Junior. At 7:30 that night, the nanny put the baby to sleep in his crib. Two hours later Charles thought he heard a noise out side but dismissed it. At 10 PM the nanny checked on the baby and frantically notified the family that the baby was gone. Charles found a hand written note.

"Dear Sir, have 50000\$ redy. \$25,000 in 20 s 15,000 \$ in tens and 10,000 in fives, I warn you for making any thing public or for notify the police. the child is in gut care."

Then began the most lurid case in American Criminal History. The massive publicity brought crowds to the Lindburg estate destroying any footprints or evidence. Amateur detectives, military men and even Chicago mobsters offered their assistance. More ransom notes arrived. In early April, Lindburg delivered \$50,000 to the kidnappers via an intermediary. But no baby was returned. On May 12 a child's body was found in the woods, behind the Lindbergh home and sadly was identified as baby Charles. It took 2 more years before an arrest was made.

Another historic event in March was in 1944 the first allied prisoner crawled out of a tunnel into the snow near the German prisoner of war camp Stalag Lyft III.

After months of preparation the GREAT ESCAPE was on !

This audacious escape attempt was the brainchild of squadron leader Roger Bushell. The Germans were always on the lookout for escape attempts but never suspected that the prisoners would dig three tunnels at once. The men called the tunnels, Tom, Dick and Harry. As night crowded in on the 24th, the men chosen for escape gathered and discussed the escape plans for the three tunnels. By the time the Germans realized that prisoners were getting out, 76 men had crawled to freedom. The snow was so deep that the escapees were forced to use main roads rather than hide in the woods as they had planned. Hitlers men captured all but three prisoners and immediately had 50 of them executed. Sadly squadron leader Roger Bushell who organized the GREAT ESCAPE was among them. The series Hogan's Heroes comes to mind !

So what else happened in March ??

President John F. Kennedy establish the Peace Core 1961

American soldier and politician Sam Houston ran away as a teenager and lived with the Cherokee Indians. They accepted him as a family member of their tribe. In 1832 he became commander of the Texas army in the war for Texan independence, and later served as a Senator and Governor of Texas.

In 1868 US Senate held court to hear

ABATE of Florida, Inc - Southeast Chapter

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charges against President Andrew Johnson for impeachment proceedings, however the effort to remove him failed.

1961 Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first human in space, orbiting in a capsule 187 miles above the earth surface. This was the beginning of the "Space Race".

1888 "The Great Blizzard" struck northeastern states quite unexpectedly. The storm dropped 40 inches of snow in New York City alone !

1931 The Star Spangled Banner became our National Anthem.

1963 the infamous Alcatraz prison closed for good. It is now a tourist attraction

1886 Coca-Cola was invented

1870 the 15th amendment goes into effect giving black men the right to vote

1820 Maine was admitted as the 23rd state of the union

1916 President Woodrow Wilson sent 12,000 troops under the guidance of General Pershing, over the Mexican border to capture bandit Poncho Villa. The mission failed

1960 the first underwater park was established as Key Largo Coral Reef Preserve

1978 Charlie Chaplin's coffin was stolen from a small village cemetery in Switzerland

1954 hydrogen bomb testing in part of the Marshall islands began

Here's a few things to celebrate in March...

March 1 National Peanut Butter Lovers day March 3 National Anthem Day March 16 everything you do, "You Do Right Day"...

www.abatese.org

yes.. that's right everything ! March 9 International Fannypack Day...seriously ?

March 13 National Earmuff Day....and that's a very important holiday here in sunny Florida.! March 19 International Waffle Day...just a day to encourage the consumption of all foods waffled!

And most importantly March 17..St. Patrick's Day...get out and enjoy!

Madder than a March Hare...Jody











We are bringing back our old Sponsorship Program. This was an idea to help raise money for our Chapter, and also to recognize those brothers and sisters who provide extra monetary support, to promote the Chapter's mission. Members, or other individuals, who provide a donation to the Chapter, will have name recognition in our Monthly Newsletter and on the Chapter's website, for one year. The categories are: Platinum Donor \$125+; Diamond Donor \$100-\$124, Gold Donor \$75-\$99, Silver Donor \$50-\$74, and Bronze Donor \$25-\$49.

Approximately 40% of our members are Life Members, which means they do not pay annual dues, so they do not financially support the Chapter through dues. They do buy products, pay to attend events, post ads in our Newsletter, and make monetary donations, but they have no obligation to do so. This is another opportunity for them to contribute, if they wish, but anyone can do this.

This is an opportunity for all Southeast Chapter brothers and sister to become ABATE Southeast Chapter Sponsors. Platinum Donors also get to select a page in our Newsletter, to sponsor, where you name will be listed in a banner at the top of the chosen page, and first come, first serve.

I want to sponsor ABATE Southeast Chapter with the following donation (not tax-deductible). Check one:

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Thank you in advance for your support!!!!!









January 29, 2020

То:	James "Doc" Reichenbach
То:	Abate State President
From:	Clare Frost & Clive Taylor
From:	Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show

Last Saturday, January 25th, we had our 14th annual Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show. Over 350 vintage bikes were on display along with vendors, music, food, etc..

We put this show on for the City of Dania Beach, Fl.

This year the Southeast Chapter of Abate volunteered to help us with our traffic control, unloading of bikes, registration and anything that was needed to be done.

This was the smoothest move-in we have had in all our years running this event thanks to the Abate members that were on top of their game. We had several comments from attendees and city officials about the professionalism of the Abate members that assisted.

We are so happy to have this great chapter in our neck of the woods!

Clare Frost & Clive Taylor











SCURVY FEW MC pirate Party

Sunday, February 9, 2020



50/50 Raffles

Door Prizes

\$3 per person/\$5 per couple Scurvy Buffet \$6/Plate

Independents and Vendors Welcome

Live Music

1:00pm-???? Mickey's Tiki Bar













Amanda "Dark Angel" Bierman Anamary "Savage" Batista Angelo Dina Anthony "Tony" Becham Bill "Big Bill" Pessiman Charles Corso Charlie "Gnarly Charlie" Chris Sharp Christopher "Foski Brown" Foskaris David Blanchette Eddie Diaz George Torrence Guy "Nacho" Diaz Jon "Wavy" Viger Kenneth "Shades" Matos Amanda "Dark Angel" Bierman Angelo Dina Anthony "Tony" Becham Bill "Big Bill" Pessiman Charles Corso Charlie "Gnarly Charlie" Chris Sharp Christopher "Foski Brown" Foskaris David Blanchette Eddie Diaz George Torrence Guy "Nacho" Diaz Jon "Wavy" Viger 0000

OLDHIPPY'S CORNER

(throwback April 2010)

Helmets and Condoms These two things have a lot in common!! They both come in array of colors and styles, besides the fact that most of a lot of male riders not only own a helmet but also some may also have condoms somewhere in their wallet or vest for that chance meeting, They both are for protection, whether it be for the big head where the large brain resides or for the little one that hides behind the fly in their pants that some dudes think with, , both protect its contents and its relationship with the rest of the body, for now it is our choice whether we wear them or not.

Both these head gear have been proven to help reduce ramifications that can occur to whole body when not in use, in most cases. Yet we have lawmakers always thinking that we need to have more stringent laws to make us wear motorcycle helmets when we are riding our two wheeled vibrating ladies.

How about our two-legged ladies?? Should they introduce legislation stating that we must wear condoms anytime we partake in any type of activity that could expose the little head to possibility of affecting the rest of the body to harm?

Look at Senator Edwards, just think of it. If he would have just worn a condom, he could might not have caused so much injury to his family and career. All he would have had to do is just have worn a helmet on his little head!

As Sociologists have noted, it is human nature to want, (if available) to be able to make their own choices in life and these two are no different. We make decisions every day that can subject us to some sort of injury to our self or others. To give examples, and to put in basic forms, just things as simple as ordering a pizza when it's raining out, versus going out to eat, is a decision that has a chance to expose us to potential danger. If we go ahead and make the decision to go out instead of ordering in, our chances of a driving accident also increase.

The thing is, there are all kind of decisions and activities that we do in our lives that are some form a risk. Things like skiing, (remember Sonny Bono), Take bare back horse riding, is it not safer to have a saddle than not, and with that, it still did not help Christopher Reeve, from having a life changing accident, and by the way he was also wearing a helmet to boot.

I had to take one of the safety courses that most large companies drag you though, and





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OLDHIPPY'S CORNER

in it, was a term "norm" and it went on to explain that this is a term used to represent the vast majority of people and, for the most part, these people are just doing things in "auto". It also went on the state that the "norm" people really do not think about safety. Ok, I half ass agree with the authors on this, and other subjects the general public are up against in their daily lives, but then again, that is why they are being made aware as to all the "dangers" that are lurking, just waiting to "make their day".

The government and insurance companies have gotten together to help the "norms" be aware by enacting rules that pretty much have made it mandatory, by means of insurance companies reducing their premiums, if the business complies with the requirements to help the "norms" pay attention.

Bikers are not the Norm....

- We look and dress different
- We like the feeling of freedom and the open road that 2 wheels give us

We like the feeling, that when we get together, no matter how many riders or where it is that.

There is a common connection between all riders and they are friendly people, versus the "norm "who kind of just exist and don't even acknowledge other individuals by saying hi. The main things that separates us and a few others from the "norm", is that we are not dummies. We all know the risks involved with what we like to do and just like the Sociologists have stated, it is vital part of our makeup and freedom to be able to have a choice. We all have seen what can happen either way and we accept the consequences for the decision, but it is for now OUR choice to make, not one that needed to be decided by dudes up north in fancy suits.

Keeps this in mind the next time you reach for you a helmet for either head It is your choice and we need to make sure we always have the right to make our own decisions. Till the next time

Keep the shinny side up and the greasy side down

OldHippy

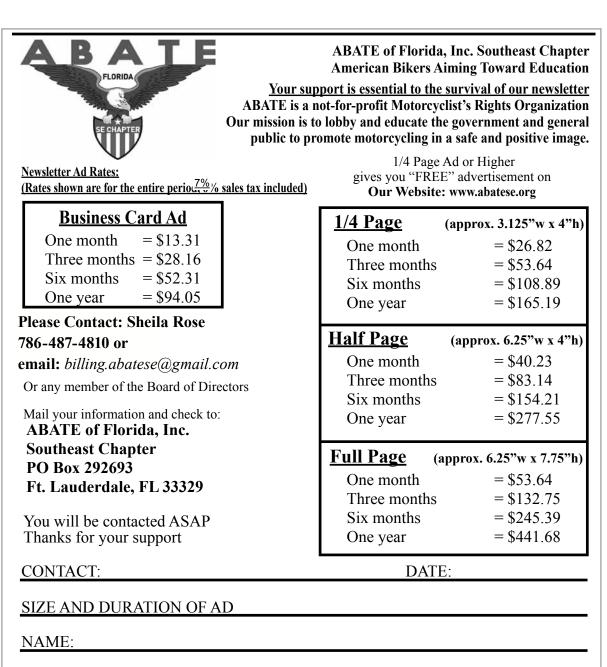








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President's Rant Corner

Right now, all the motorcycle shops that sell parts are starting to have a rough go of it, because everything can be bought online. So, everybody buys everything online and we lose all our motorcycle shops, not to mention retail stores, and mom & pop stores. Okay, so if you have anything on your motorcycle that is after-market, you know, not made by the motorcycle manufacturers, and you break down on the road, you are basically screwed. I don't think the Internet will send the parts to you on the side of the road, just sayin....

I remember my throttle cable broke on my old 96 Lowrider and I had an S&S carburetor on it. Gainesville Harley didn't have a throttle cable that I could use, but there was a shop down the street that had one, and I was able to put it on and make it back home from Gainesville. That's a long ride to have to try with the cable wrapped around your finger, and you know what I mean, if your old school.

And if your bike starts, you find a way to rig the bike so you can make it home and don't have to have the bike towed. Case in point; I was riding my wife's bike (mine was being fixed and I needed some wind) and a car ran me off the road. See the picture for my rig.

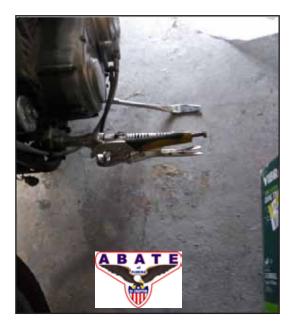
This got me thinking about our newsletter, and how we are having a hard time getting advertisers, because they can set up websites or Facebook pages and advertise for free. They think print media is out of date, old fashioned. Please help show them that they are wrong. Please support our current advertisers, and help us get more, advertise with us, or give a newsletter to a local business, so we can keep putting this newsletter out in print format, you know, old school, just sayin....

God bless America!

Peace, Johnny Rose







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

MOTORCYCLIST ADVISORY COUNCIL REAUTHORIZATION ACTION

On February 3, 2020, U.S. Senators Ron Johnson (R-WI) and Gary Peters (D-MI) introduced S.3249 as a bipartisan companion to House bill H.R.5234, calling for the Secretary of Transportation to reauthorize the Motorcyclist Advisory Council established under the FAST Act of 2015.

The "Motorcyclist Advisory Council Reauthorization Act" (S.3249 & H.R.5234) calls for a 12-member council, including members of the motorcycling community, to "advise the Secretary, the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration regarding transportation safety issues of concern to motorcyclists, including (A) barrier design; (B) road design, construction, and maintenance practices; and (C) the architecture and implementation of intelligent transportation system technologies."

'AUTOCYCLES' DEFY FEDERAL DEFINITION

With the advent of "three-wheel light-duty vehicles, also called 'Autocycles', as a method of passenger transportation," states across the country have attempted to legislate their licensure and operation, as well as establish a definition of the vehicle and registration protocol, which has prompted concern "that a patchwork of laws and inconsistent regulations now exists, absent a Federal standard for autocycles, thereby causing confusion and hindering the growth of this emerging industry."

Although 38 states have established new regulations and definitions for autocycles, under Federal regulations they are currently classified as motorcycles though they have

different physical and operational characteristics than traditional automobiles and motorcycles.

Last year, the U.S. Congress directed the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to conduct research on the appropriate safety standards and existing regulations that apply to autocycles, and in a January 2020 "Report to Congress on the Federal and State Regulatory Status of Autocycles", NHTSA determined that because they do not use the term "autocycle" in its regulations, it currently "regulates all autocycles the same as conventional motorcycles," which "are subject to the same minimum Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) that are applicable to motorcycles, rather than those FMVSS that are applicable to light vehicles (e.g., passenger cars and light trucks)," such as seat belts, air bags, etc.

Regarding the inconsistency of state laws affecting autocycles; "NHTSA does not regulate vehicle usage or operation on roads as this takes place at the State and local level. Vehicle registration, driver licensing, and rider equipment regulations such as whether helmets are required for motorcycle operation are among the areas regulated directly by individual States."

Therefore, any regulatory uniformity from the federal level doesn't seem to be forthcoming any time soon, leaving individual states to determine whether autocycles will be registered as motorcycles and whether operators will be required to have a motorcycle endorsement on their drivers license, or be required to wear a helmet or not, among other pending issues.

CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATION TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR RECREATIONAL TRAILS

On February 6, 2020 a group of Representatives introduced bipartisan legislation to increase funding for the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). introduced in House, H.R. 5797, the "Recreational Trails Full Funding Act of 2020", would more than double financial support for the RTP.

Since 1991, RTP has provided funding to states to develop and maintain outdoor recreational trails, allowing millions of Americans and their families to enjoy activities such as offroading, snowmobiling, hiking, bicycling, and cross-country skiing, "creating countless opportunities for motorized

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recreation and human-powered experiences," says Rep. John Curtis (R-UT) a sponsor of the measure.

The bill will more than double RTP funding to at least \$250 million by requiring the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to provide a current estimate of the amount of gas taxes paid by non-highway recreational users. The program is modeled after the Highway Trust Fund and is funded through taxes paid on gasoline used to fuel snowmobiles, ATVs, and other recreational vehicles that do not use highways. The program is currently funded at \$84 million annually, which is substantially less than is collected in taxes on fuel used by these vehicles.

<u>POW/MIA FLAG LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN</u> <u>KENTUCKY</u>

Last November we reported in NCOM Biker Newsbytes that President Donald Trump had signed the National POW/MIA Flag Act into law; a bipartisan bill to require the POW/MIA Flag be displayed whenever the American flag is displayed on prominent federal properties to honor the more than 82,000 Americans who are listed as Prisoners of War (POW), Missing in Action (MIA), or otherwise unaccounted for from our nation's past wars and conflicts.

While the federal legislation appropriately regards federal buildings and memorials, Kentucky Motorcycle Association (KMA/KBA.com) member Danny "Greasy" Belcher, director of Task Force Omega of KY, has taken steps to ensure that the flag will fly atop State properties as well.

Belcher lobbied Kentucky legislators to introduce Senate Bill 104, "to designate the POW/MIA flag as the state's symbol of concern and commitment to achieving the fullest possible accounting of United States military personnel who, having been prisoners of war or missing in action, still remain unaccounted for or those who in the future may become prisoners of war, missing in action, or otherwise unaccounted for as a result of hostile action; specify locations, dates, and circumstances under which the flag shall be displayed."

The recognizable black and white POW-MIA flag you see flying all across the country has a special meaning to Kentuckians, as it was created by Bowling Green resident Mary Hoff in 1970 after her husband's plane was shot down over Laos during the Vietnam War.

Call (800) 372-7181 and ask Kentucky Senators to cosponsor S.B.104; "It is the least we can do for our POW/ MIAs," says Greasy.

DISTRACTED DRIVING TARGETED BY LAWMAKERS

Nearly four in 10 drivers admit to looking at their phones while driving, according to a AAA survey, and distracted driving has become a leading cause of highway accidents and fatalities nationwide. Nearly every state has enacted laws against texting while driving, while many others have banned handheld wireless communications devices altogether, such as a new law that recently went into effect in Florida.

Perhaps 2020 will be a major year for distracted driver bills sweeping through state legislatures, as Utah (H.B.101) and Colorado (S.B.65) have already introduced measures this year to require drivers to use hands-free devices, and motorcycle groups in those states say it's about time!

On Tuesday, February 11, the Colorado Senate Transportation and Energy Committee passed Senate Bill 65 unanimously, on a 5-to-nothing vote.

Lawmakers in Ohio recently extended the definition of "distracted" to include "any activity that is not necessary for the vehicle's operation and that impairs the driver's ability to drive safely," including eating, handing things, or even changing the radio station could all result in a ticket.

Maryland has taken a different approach, introducing H.B.721/S.B.512 "Prohibiting an individual from causing the serious physical injury or death of a vulnerable individual as a result of the individual operating a vehicle in a careless or distracted manner."

STATES SEEK TO LEGALIZE LANE SPLITTING

As of January 2020, California is the only U.S. state that formally authorizes motorcyclists to lane split. Utah passed a law to allow riders to lane filter in 2019, while Hawaii made shoulder surfing legal in rush hour traffic situations in 2018. Now, Arizona and Virginia could soon join California on the elite list of lane-splitting-friendly states.

Proposals to legalize lane splitting both in Arizona and Virginia were recently submitted to those states' legislative bodies. The Arizona bill, House Bill 2285 introduced in January

Continued on next page

by Representative and Arizona House Transportation Committee chairman Noel Campbell, a former Navy and U.S. Forest Service pilot and a motorcycle tour guide, would allow riders to lane split on roads of more than one lane in the same direction with a speed limit of 45 mph or less and when traffic is cruising at no more than 15 mph.

In Virginia, Rep. Tony Wilt proposed a similar measure, House Bill 1236, to allow motorcyclists to lane split on roads of more than one lane in the same direction but traffic speed would have to be under 10 mph and motorcycles would be limited to a maximum speed of 20 mph.

Over the past few years, a slew of bills have been introduced to legalize lane splitting and filtering, including;

Connecticut, where lawmakers are actively considering Senate Bill 629 to make both lane splitting and filtering explicitly legal.

In Oregon, House Bill 2314 was referred to the Speaker's desk. If approved, motorcycles could travel between cars on roadways where the speed limit is 50mph or greater, and traffic is moving at 10mph or slower.

Washington state reintroduced Senate Bill 5254 on January 13, 2020 and it's currently in committee.

In Canada, the Toronto city council is considering Agenda Item MM43.53 to allow filtering throughout the city, as well as allowing motorcycles to "use reserved lanes" in some specific areas of the city.

<u>NCOM CONVENTION IN "CIRCLE CITY" ON THE FAST</u> <u>TRACK</u>

The 35th annual NCOM Convention in Indianapolis is in the home stretch, so plan now to be a part of one of the largest gathering of motorcycle rights activists in the world. This year's NCOM Convention, to be held Mother's Day weekend, May 8-9, 2020 at the Marriott Indianapolis East (7202 East 21st Street) will draw hundreds of concerned motorcyclists from across America to "Circle City" to address topics of concern to all riders.

Known worldwide for its "Indy 500", it was motorcycles that first lapped the Brickyard's banked oval track in 1909,

and over a century later bikers are still racing toward the checkered flag of victory.

Racing is a team sport, and everyone's contributions facilitate the win, so ALL motorcyclists are welcome to attend and participate in the many meetings, seminars and group discussions.

Many of today's finest Freedom Fighters will be on hand to promote strength through unity, working together throughout the legislative process, teach organizational and leadership principles, and share lobbying techniques and political insights to retain and regain Freedom of the Road.

Agenda items will cover legal and legislative issues of concern to all riders, including "Protect Your Rights/Probable Cause" and "Vulnerable Road Users Legislation To Protect Our Riders" seminars, with Special Meetings for Veterans Affairs, Women in Motorcycling, Clean & Sober Roundtable and World of Sport Bikes, as well as the Christian Unity Conference and Confederation of Clubs Patch Holders Meeting. Renown EMT Dick "Slider" Gilmore will present his "Save a Biker's Life" seminar on The Golden Hour, a mustsee tutorial.

Registration fees for the NCOM Convention are \$85 including the Silver Spoke Awards Banquet on Saturday night, or \$50 for the Convention only. For more information, or to preregister, call the National Coalition of Motorcyclists at (800) 525-5355 or visit www.ON-A-BIKE.com.

Claim your spot in the starting lineup and reserve your hotel room now for the special NCOM rate of \$129 per night by calling (317) 352-9775, and we'll see you at the finish line!

In the meantime, the National Coalition of Motorcyclists is requesting that MROs, motorcycle clubs, and riding associations submit the names of those members and supporters who have passed away over the past year, since May 2019, so that we may honor their memories with the traditional "Ringing of the Bell" tribute to fallen riders during the opening ceremonies. Dedications should be e-mailed in advance to Bill Bish at NCOMBish@aol.com, or can be hand-delivered at the Convention to "Doc" Reichenbach, NCOM Chairman of the Board.

QUOTABLE QUOTE:

"We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them."

~ Albert Einstein (1879-1955) German-born physicist

ABOUT AIM / NCOM: The National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) is a nationwide motorcyclists rights organization serving over 2,000 NCOM Member Groups throughout the United States, with all services fully-funded through Aid to Injured Motorcyclist (AIM) Attorneys available in each state who donate a portion of their legal fees from motorcycle accidents back into the NCOM Network of Biker Services (www.ON-A-









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2019-11-01

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Classified for Members are run at no charge. Non-Member classified are only \$5. Please be respectful, space is limited to 6 months to make room for new items. If you do not contact the editor once your 6 month period is up, you will be removed without notification. Call any Board Member to place a classified ad - See page 3, or advise when your item is sold. Thank You.

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ATTENTION ALL ABATE SOUTHEAST CHAPTER MEMBERS REMEMBER: The ABATE Southeast Chapter Newsletter can always be found online at the Southeast Chapter website: <u>www.abatese.org</u>. You may also pickup a copy of the Newsletter at any of our many distribution sites (see the bottom of page 45) located throughout Broward and Dade counties, or at our monthly Chapter meetings held on the 3rd (third) Sunday of every month tentatively at 10am at various locations. Please check our website or back page of the Newsletter for meeting locations and if you have any questions, please contact the SE Chapter President (contact info on page 3 of the Newsletter, please leave a message).

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TO PLACE ADVERTISEMENTS

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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 \$50 layout charge and will be billed separately. See following page (page 46) for ad rates and sizes.

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Motorcycle Rights & Safety Dedicated to

"Freedom of Choice, Freedom of the Road"

You may know us as the motorcycle organization that got the helmet law repealed in Florida or from our motorcycle rights and safety rally's throughout the year. ABATE of Florida is not a club, we are a motorcycle rights & safety organization dedicated to promoting motorcycle safety while remaining ever vigilant of the legislative issues concerning motorcyclists' nationwide.

We Are Not ANTI-HELMET, We are ANTI-HELMET Law!

One of the most popular misconceptions about ABATE is that we are anti-helmet. Nothing could be further from the truth. We are "anti-helmet law" if you choose to ride with or without a helmet it's your choice, it is your right to decide whether wearing a helmet is right for you. ABATE is an organization fighting to protect your rights.

Pick up your Newsletters here!

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