

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC ESTERO RIVER JOURNAL

Volume 7

December 2009

Issue 12

Next State Meeting

Dec 12

Hosted by
the
Black Creek
Chapter

Flyer
P 22



Coming Up

YARD SALE
Jan 9th
P23

Armchair
Quarterback
Run
Jan 17
P 11



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Open Position
Please Step Up
See Tammy

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This is your Board Please feel free to call any Board Member with your questions or comments
We WANT and NEED your FEEDBACK !

State Website <http://esteroriver.abateflorida.com>

Chapter Site www.estero.abateflorida.com

Chapter Fax 239-948-6782

What
WE do



Who
WE are

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WORKING TO KEEP YOU RIDING SAFE AND FREE

- * To publish a newsletter to keep members of ABATE of Florida informed in regards to events concerning motorcycle safety, legislation affecting motorcyclists as well as any other motorcycle news around our state and throughout our country
- * To become a powerful & viable political force in legislative matters concerning motorcycles, motorcycle safety and all motorcyclists' rights
- * To promote voter registration, to educate and motivate members to become active in the legislative process
- * To promote safe motorcycle habits without infringing on the rights of other individuals
- * To educate the public about motorcycle awareness and promote safe driving habits while sharing the road with motorcyclists
- * To provide a lobbyist to represent ABATE of Florida, Inc. on the state and national levels

ABATE of Florida, Inc. has developed and copyrighted the Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Program (MSAP). It is a course that is given to non-motorcyclists to educate them on how to safely share the road with motorcyclists. It is taught in local schools and civic organizations at no charge in the hope of reducing motorcycle accidents through education not legislation

ABATE of Florida, Inc. is a statewide, non-profit organization of motorcycle enthusiasts from all walks of life. Our members are carpenters, electricians students, doctors, lawyers, auto mechanics, retirees, teachers and businessmen and women. We promote motorcycle safety, training and awareness. **WE ARE NOT A CLUB OR A GANG.** We fund our work through toy and poker runs, fun rides, camping and other motorcycle related activities. We are your neighbors, co-workers and friends. We work, we pay mortgages and taxes and we are involved with our community. We serve 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. was the driving force behind the changes in Florida's helmet law. Florida motorcyclists can now choose whether or not they want to wear a helmet.

ABATE of Florida, Inc. serves on the advisory board for the Motorcycle Riders Training Program. This is the program that oversees the training sites for motorcyclists. These sites are funded only by the motorcyclists, through monies collected by the motorcycle endorsement on your drivers license and the fees collected at the training sites. ABATE is the organization that got the monies returned to that program, when the state of Florida saw fit to use it for non motorcycling purposes. Also put in legislation that effectively keeps the state from seizing the funds in the future. ABATE acts as your watchdog by monitoring how that money is spent and makes suggestions that can improve the Motorcycle Riders Training Program for all motorcyclists.

Any individual 18 or older interested in motorcycle rights, safety or education, regardless of race, sex or club affiliation. It doesn't matter what or even if you ride, joining ABATE ensures your opinion on motorcycle laws are being heard

EMERGENCY TEAM

Thanks to these individuals who have stepped up to volunteer to become part of the chapter's emergency team. These members and friends will come to you and assist you in transporting your motorcycle, if it breaks down in the area. They have trailers to accommodate you in an emergency situation. If you are interested in volunteering please call the Michelle (239-440-7258) or email erjournal@embarqmail.com, so we can add you to the list. Thank you for your support.

Tom Provenzano	Open trailer	Ft Myers area	239-267-8641
Brian Hughes	Enclosed trailer	Lehigh (50 mi radius)	239-344-6616
Hugh Galyon	Open trailer	Ft Myers/Naples	239-405-2219
Ed Davidson	Enclosed trailer	(100 mi radius)	239-287-5657
Kirk Richards	Open (holds 3)	Bonita & San Carlos	239-495-3317
David Banks	Open trailer	Ft Myers area	239-200-3771
BLACK CREEK CHAPTER (Middleburg Area)			
Roy Palmer	Open Trailer	H-904-282-7611	C-904-612-7715
Herb Hiderbrand	Open Trailer	H-904-282-3686	C-904-237-2937
BIG BEND CHAPTER (Crawfordville Area)			
Charlie Friz	Open Trailer	H-850-926-5122	C-850-933-3828
Preacher	Duval, Clay and NE Florida up into Georgia.		904-838-2806

DEADLINES

Advertising - 15th of each month

Officer Reports - By the Chapter meetings.

All other Submissions -10th of each month

IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT

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STATEMENT OF FREQUENCY
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NAME & ADDRESS
ABATE of Florida, Inc.
Estero River Chapter
PO Box 366760
Bonita Springs FL, 34136-6760

DISCLAIMERS

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily that of ABATE of Florida, Inc or the Estero River Chapter. This Publication encourages the views and or opinions of it's members and sponsors. ABATE of Florida, Inc. and Estero River Chapter accepts no responsibility for opinions, views and for comments in this publication. The Editor reserves the right to edit for length, misspellings, formatting and inappropriate language.

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Happy Holidays everyone,

I hope this Holiday season is all that you hope and need it to be.
You are all in my thoughts.

I want to start by saying Thank you to each and everyone who helped in any way for the Pilgrims Pride Run. It was a successful event and with all the generous donations and participation we will be able to finish our shopping for our 21 special children for Christmas. So many of you stepped up and helped and this chapter is ever grateful.

I want to welcome to new members to our Board of Directors; Pam Cooke for stepping up as Legislative Rep and Pete Lugo for stepping up and taking over Safety Director for me to lighten my load. You are both very professional and I know you will do great things for this chapter and organization. I look forward to working with you both.

There I no Chapter or BOD meeting for the month of December with the holidays so we will see you all in January.
Our Armchair Quarterback run is Jan. 17th so I hope to see you all there.

Don't forget the Birthday Party at the Corkscrew Country Store on Dec. 5th. It's going to be a blast. Free camping also if you don't want to drive.
Guess that's all for now.

Till next time,
Ride safe, Ride happy, Ride Free

Tammy Brickley

Proud to be your President

6 NOW OUR VICE PRESIDENT

Merry Christmas to all!

That's right "Merry CHRISTmas" NOT "happy holiday CRAP"! Remember before when we didn't have to be politically CORRECT! Which brings me to Obama care- Do you enjoy your soda beverage – soon if you prefer sugar you be TAXED due to our nation's obesity epidemic. Your tooth brush will be considered a medical device and it will be taxed. Riding a motorcycle is considered by some to be dangerous and you will be charged a higher premium and the best of the "PLANS" stupidity goes on.

Mr. Obama says that this health care will only cover legal citizens. Prop 187 in CA was to exclude illegal aliens. Prop 187 was defeated by the Supreme Court because you cannot discriminate against people being in this country. So Obama stating it will not cover the illegals makes him an idiot or a liar because he knows it will not weather a Supreme Court decision.

So ask yourselves do we go like lambs that they slaughter and believe what they tell us or explain to our senators and congressman that if they vote for this bill then Wed. Nov. 3rd 2010 they will be looking for another job. So step up and contact our senators and congressman to vote no on this bill.

When Mr. Obama says this is the best for America; Patriotism & Religion is the last refuge of a scoundrel.

Thank you for your time, Ride safe and May GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Sincerely,

DISCLAIMER

If you have any questions or gripes about anything I write, feel free to contact me. My expressed opinions are not necessarily that of ABATE of Florida, Inc , this chapter or the editor of this newsletter

"NECK"

CHAPTER MINUTES BY J

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ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. ESTERO RIVER CHAPTER CHAPTER MEETING

Date: November 22, 2009 Called to Order @ 10:08 am.

Location: S.C.C.C.

Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence

President: Tammy Brickley

1. Bike Tickets : Must be turn be fore December 10th .

Vice President: Kinsey Winstead

1. Guests and new members: 3 new members at meeting one guests.

Secretary: Jerilyn Walker

1. Motion to except the minutes as printed in newsletter. 1st John
2nd Neck

Treasurer: Sheila Bear:

1. Motion to except Treasures report. 1st John 2nd Neck

2 BIN Fund : Biker in need open to any member in good standing
that needs help just contact anyone on board.

Sgt. @ Arms: Karl Bartling-

1. Needs security for B-Day Party: Needs ppl 2 hour shifts 2-8 p.m.

2. Needs 3 more shifts covered.

Quartermaster: John Reis

1. Quarter to Master

**State Delegates: Larry Peterson "redneck" & Kinsey Winstead
"neck"**

1. State Meeting Dec. 12th Jacksonville (Middlesburg Fl. VFW)

Alternate State Delegates: Ed Fowler & Steve Wyatt

1. Nothing at this time.

PR Communications: Geoff Henry

1. Media release for Christmas Party for Kids

Great Job Geoff.

8 CHAPTER MINUTES BY J

Legislative Representative: Pam Cooke

1. Pam Cooke : Vote of Confidence
2. Update

Safety Director: Pete Lugo

1. Pete Lugo Vote of Confidence
2. See Pete’s report

Advertising: Open

1. Anyone can get advertisers for Michelle

Products: Lynn Dillard

1. Legendary t-shirts five dollars can Koozies four dollars Bottle Koozies \$5.00
2. Lots of new ideas for next year.

Newsletter Editor: Michelle Beaken

1. Deadline for reports and submissions is today except for J

Membership: Michelle Beaken

1. Handed out new member packets and pins.
2. Updates 317 members

Webmaster: Robin Hall Excused

1. Web page update see report need stuff for classified
2. Good Job Alaska.
3. If looking for something on web use Good Searches . com this will pay the chapter everytime we use it.

Special Events: OPEN

1. Pilgrim’s Pride Today following the meeting.
2. Birthday Party. Dec 5th 2-8 pm all members free 5 dollars for all non members at Country Store

50/50 Kevin “AA” Brickley

T-Shirt Guy

3. Special Families Christmas Party Dec 12th at Estero Park 4 hour party with Santa will be doing crafts with the kids and lots of treats for the kid Sunshine is heading up this event if you need more information.

Chapter Historian: Diane Trippany

1. New pictures from Halloween

Sunshine Lady: Cindy Fowler- Excused

1. Update see Cindy's report in newsletter

Legendary Party-Neck

1. Committee is formed 4th weekend in March at the Country Store.

Old Business:

1. Newspaper recycles Fundraiser: Going Good
2. Halloween Party: Great Time looking forward to next year

New Business:

1. Biker for Hire Mitch and Neck are getting with the state pr so this will be a state wide our chapter and Mitch and Neck will get all credit for this.
2. Yard Sale Jan 9th at Granny Lee's: Donations from everyone
3. December Meeting's motion for no Dec meeting motion by John past next meeting in January.

Good of the Order:

1. Cheyenne Benefit Jan 3 Starts at Tuffy's and ends at Hurricane Cycles
2. Relay for Life April 9 & 10
3. December 6th Heritage Health Care Run and Southwest Christmas Run

Next BOD Meeting January 22, 2010 at Lynn's at 7:00pm

Next Chapter Meeting: January 24, 2010 at S.C.C.C. at 10:00 am

Motion to Adjourn: 1st John 2nd Neck

This is the way our Safety booth will look and would like to thank the members setting up the best one around.



Well this is my first letter to Estero chapter, I would like to say thank you for all the support from everyone. I will be planning classes in Safety and Awareness. I would like to have all chapter members take this class so we all ride and be safe on the road.

**PETE L. - "BIG RICAN"
SAFETY DIRECTOR
ESTERO RIVER CHAPTER
SAFETY AND AWARENESS
MSAP INSTRUCTOR
ABATE OF FLORIDA
esterosafetyman@aol.com**

ARE U READY 4 SOME FOOTBALL? 11



ABATE of Florida, Inc.

Estero River Chapter

PROUDLY Presents

7th Annual

ARMCHAIR QUARTER BACK RUN

Sunday January 17th, 2010

COME PLAY OUR VERSION OF FOOTBALL

First players out at 10:00 am

Last players out at 11:00 am

San Carlos Country Club

19137 S Tamiami Tr

Fort Myers, Florida 33908

239-267-0500

Last Players in at 4:00 PM

Mullock Creek Marina

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239-267-3717

EVENT ENDS AT 6:00PM

\$10.00 per player includes dinner at end. \$5.00 x-tra plate.
Everyone welcome. Bikes, trikes, cars, or trucks. You are all
welcome!!

**Wear your favorite NFL Team shirt for an extra chance at
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**This is your chance to be an ABATE football star.
What better way to start the playoffs for SUPERBOWL Sunday
than to have a SUPERABATE Sunday.**

Entertainment, door prizes, 50/50, and a whole lot of fun.

For more info call: Tammy 239-289-2647

Membership, Products, and Motorcycle Safety

Awareness info will be available.

NO PETS, GUNS, ATTITUDE, or DRUGS Please

**Donations to ABATE of Florida, Inc. are not deductible for income tax purposes.
ABATE of Florida, Inc. does not condone drinking and riding.**



Handgun Safety and Regulation Act-FACT VS. FICTION

Fiction: A bill currently before Congress would require all handgun owners list their guns on federal income tax return.

Fact: Blair Holt Bill-prohibits ownership of handguns by those without a license.

Bill SB 2099 (the Handgun Safety and Registration Act is NOT currently before Congress-it was introduced to the Senate back in February 2000 (not 2009), and it was referred to Committee on Finance, where it died without ever coming to vote. It also had no provisions for requiring handgun owners to list their guns on federal income tax return. The intent of this bill was to effect nationwide registration of handguns. Source: Snopes.com

**UPDATE ON BILLS THAT HAVE MOVED ON
TO FIRST COMMITTEE**

HM 19/SM 96 & SM 178: Urges Congress to honor provisions of U.S. Constitution & U.S. Supreme Court case law which limit scope & exercise of federal power-Now in the Economic Development & Community Affairs Policy Council.

HM 21/SB 98: Regulation of Firearms-Now in the Criminal & Civil Justice Policy Council.

HJR 37L Prohibits mandatory participation in any healthcare system, provides for individual purchase from private insurer-Now in the Health Care regulation Policy Committee.

HB 41/SB 244, SB 324, SB 326, SB 328: Prohibits operation of motor vehicle while reading, manually writing or typing, or sending message on electronic wireless communication device, provides exceptions and penalties-Now in the Roads, Bridges & Ports Policy Committee.

HB 71: Decreases fees and charges for reinstatement of drivers license, registration, etc.-Now in the Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Committee.

HB 97: Street Racing, "Luis Rivera Ortega Street Racing Act" revises penalties for violating provisions prohibiting certain speed competitions & exhibitions-Now in the Public Safety & Domestic Security Policy Committee.

HB 99: by DHSMV (Dept. of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles, similar to HB 71-Now in same Committee as HB 71.

HB 137/SB 298: Revises penalties for unlawful operation of sound making device in motor vehicle, moving violation with points assessed and increased penalties for repeat violations within certain time period-Now in Roads, Bridges & Ports Policy Committee.

LEGISLATION AFFECTING TRAFFIC & MOTOR VEHICLE LAWS

SB 1100 DHSMV Effective 6/16/09

A motorcyclist may not conceal or obscure their license plate. The requirement that a motorcycle license plate be affixed horizontally is deleted. The definition of a motorcycle in Florida law will coincide with that of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration when applicable. Any driver who is the at-fault party in three crashes within three years will be required to take a behind-the-wheel driver education course. This provision is effective Jan. 1, 2010. The department will no longer issue a driver license and identification card to the same person effective Nov. 1, 2009.

SB 344 Safety Belts

The safety belt requirements of this section do not apply to vehicles that are not required to be equipped with safety belts by federal law. The requirement that the safety belt law be enforced only as a secondary violation is removed.

SB 554 University Police/Traffic Law

University police officers are authorized to enforce all traffic laws when violations occur on or within 1,000 feet of any property or facilities under the guidance or supervision of the university.

HB 1021 Transportation

The term “race” is defined. A motor vehicle used while racing on the highway may be impounded for 30 business days.

SB 1718 Traffic Court

Clarification is made to the practical effect of the elimination of the 18% reduction on the fine for electing traffic school during the special session of January 2009. The administrative fee of \$12.50 and the Article V assessment fee of \$10 which are currently charged for all traffic violations of chapter 316 is expanded to include traffic violations of chapters 320 & 322.

SB 2109 Traffic Court

The surcharge on traffic violations which is authorized to fund state court facilities is raised to \$30. The board of county commissioners is authorized to impose by ordinance a surcharge on infractions for the exclusive purpose of securing payment on bonds issued after July 1, 2009 to fund state court facilities.

SB 1778 Motor Vehicle and Driver License Fees

For list go to www.flhsmv.gov/Leg2009

HB 481 Enhanced Penalties

An additional \$65 penalty is added to passing a stopped school bus, racing on the highway and reckless driving. The additional revenue is to be distributed to the Department of Health for trauma centers. Drivers who are convicted of running a red light, passing a stopped school bus, racing on the highway or reckless driving are required to take a driver improvement course upon first offense. The court is required to take into consideration the hardship placed upon a DUI defendant when ordering community service and may accept payment of \$10 for each hour in lieu of the community service.

*THIS IS A SUMMARY OF PENDING LEGISLATION. FOR MORE DETAILED & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT **ABATEFLORIDA.COM** AND CLICK ON LEGISLATIVE. ALSO CHECK OUT “SCRIBES LEGISLATIVE VOICE”. IF YOU WANT COPIES OF ANYTHING. I’LL BE HAPPY TO PRINT INFORMATION FOR YOU.*

Pam Cooke, Legislative Rep

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Scribes Legislative Voice



DECEMBER, 2009 VOLUME 001, ISSUE 6

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.



Merry Christmas and Happy Chanukah from all of us at the Legislative Voice. Can you believe that another year has come and gone so quickly? As often happens this time of year, our thoughts and deeds tend to lean towards helping others, after all, December is magical in so many ways. This Holiday Season all of our Chapters will reach out in one way or another to our community. I am very proud to hear that so many of our events have a decades old history of unselfish giving. What is it about bikers and this time of the year? How many of us have felt that lump in our throat while singing carols at a nursing home? Or have witnessed a tough old biker dressed as Santa handing our presents to children with a joyful tear trailing down his cheek? Biker's help, that's what we do! In this edition, I wish to open you up to the idea of giving back to our communities all year long.

DARRIN "SCRIBE" BROOKS, *State Legislative Trustee*, ABATE of Florida, Inc.

"Never DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL, COMMITTED CITIZENS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD. INDEED, IT IS THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS." ~ MARGARET MEAD

If you had the chance to: 1) increase the positive image of motorcyclist, 2) promote your Chapter, and 3) build a strong relationship with your local government, would you be interested? It would require that you give a little bit of yourself to your community, still interested? For those that are still interested, I would like to talk about several areas that could use your help. Each county has special "Citizen Advisory Boards" that deal with very specific areas such as zoning, local planning, and tourism and arts just to name a few. Many counties have 20 or more such boards and several are looking for people with expertise in the area involved.

I am on the advisory board for a community center in my neighborhood and I take full advantage of that position to bring attention to Getor Alley Chapter and ABATE in general. I also get to better my community by making sure that the center can continue to provide the much needed services to the public. The icing on the cake is that we only meet once a month for about an hour. One hour out of my month is tiny, yet it reaches so many, and now the community center looks at bikers in a new light.

I know that we have members with a wide array of knowledge and skill sets that can be used by our communities. If you are

interested in learning just what is available in your area then Google "advisory boards" and your county name, for example "advisory boards Collier County". Take a look at the different boards or committees and see which one appeals to you. Then contact the county to see what step you need to take next. I know that you will find many ways to help and many ways to better your community.

How does this help ABATE and your Chapter you ask? Besides the good will and increased recognition, think of it as another way we can reach out to our local leaders. It provides an additional avenue of approach. For example, your mayor wants to impose a noise ordinance in your town. Your Chapter happens to have five members that sit on various advisory boards and the CTST, not only does your Chapter Legislative Trustee approach the mayor and town council, but the five advisory board members approach them from that direction as well. Now the mayor is getting well thought-out reasons why the noise ordinance may not be the best idea from several different angles.

If there is one thing I know about the members of ABATE of Florida, Inc., I know we are neither shy about voicing our opinions nor timid in our offering to help. After all, we are bikers, and that is what we do.

Community Traffic Safety Teams

I would like to thank Casey Staley VP at Lake County Chapter for educating me about the Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST). I had never heard of the CTST and learned that they are part of the Florida Department of Transportation's Safety Office - www.dot.state.fl.us/Safety/CTST/ctst.shtml. The CTSTs are made up of many different agencies, groups, and private citizens. Casey Staley told me that it is a great opportunity for all the Chapters of ABATE because "You get to work shoulder to shoulder with many agencies in your area. Since Lake County Chapter has become involved with our local CTST, we have developed a stronger relationship with the motorcycle officers and have had them out to speak with us several times." I also spoke to Trenda McPherson with FDOT, she says there are currently 58 teams in the State and they are always eager to work with people interested in motorcycle safety. This is a tremendous way that we can give back to your community and continue to increase the positive image of motorcyclist. I urge you to join your local CTST and help make your community safe for everyone.

ABATE of Florida, Inc.

December 2009

Legislative Voice

Designed by Melinda "Scribbles" Brooks

LEGISLATOR'S CORNER

This month I had the privilege to meet with Collier County Commissioner Tom Henning. I wanted to give you the perspective of a local official and how important it is that we work together with our community leaders. The more that they learn about what ABATE of Florida, Inc. and your local Chapter stands for, the better we can protect our rights and keep our brothers and sisters safe. Tom Henning has served on the Collier County Board of Commissioners since 2000. He served as Chairman of the Board in 2003 and 2008. He is currently serving as a member of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council. Commissioner Henning sold his business of 19 years, Golden Gate Auto Repair, to devote himself full-time to his Commissioner's duties.



*Tom Henning
Collier County
Commissioner*

Q. What role do the Advisory Boards play in each counties local government? How do they help and can anybody participate?

A. Collier County has 49 advisory committees/boards with over 400 citizen members. Each advisory committee/board strives to assist the Board of County Commissioners in making decisions that will benefit all of Collier County. When appointing advisory committee/board members, the Board of County Commissioners considers the technical, professional, financial, business or administrative expertise necessary to effectively accomplish the committee/board's purpose. All advisory committee/board members should have demonstrated an interest in the activity or service that is the purpose of the committee/board.

Q. We have seen in the past some local governments try to implement various types of restriction on motorcyclist. How can we help educate our local leaders to help prevent restrictions on motorcyclist? (Example: Delray Beach Mayor unsuccessfully attempted to ban all motorcycles from downtown, some have made noise ordinances, only to find out that 90% of the ticketed offenders where cars and trucks.)

A. We definitely need to comunicate on a regular basis so that my colleagues and I understand what the desires of the users groups are such as ABATE.

Q. Can you talk about the Community Traffic Safety Teams (CTST) and the impact they have on the local community.

A. The Community Traffic Safety Team is a group of various professionals and volunteers in Collier County. Our team has impacted the community by hosting events that promote safety. These events include the International Walk to School day, where in the past three years we have given away 15,000 book bags to children who walk to school. We have also hosted helmet fittings, and have given away thousands of helmets. We have distributed and installed bicycle lights to hundreds in Immokalee. We have helped seniors through the "Car fit" program. We have done all of this with no funding. Everything that we give away is given to us by FDOT or other agencies through safety grants. We have also sponsored Road Safety Assessments (RSA) which has led to safety changes to road links, for example our RSA led to new crosswalks and signs being installed on Main Street in Immokalee. Our team is extremely pro active in working to promote safety to all modes of transportation.



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03' Harley 1200 Sportster - 2500 miles, excellent condition, need to sell, need the room. Clean title. \$4500.00 firm or trade for Generator of equal value.

95 Honda Z50R Fast 50 Dirt Bike - New brakes, helmet, training wheels, new tires, automatic 3 speed, new air cleaner box, new element, fresh paint. \$400.00

05 Yamaha TT-R125 Dirt Bike - \$2500.00 OBO - Bought for son, son still not big enough. Excellent Condition.

80 IT250 Yamaha Dirt Bike- Runs GREAT! Mechanically sound. \$800.00 OBO

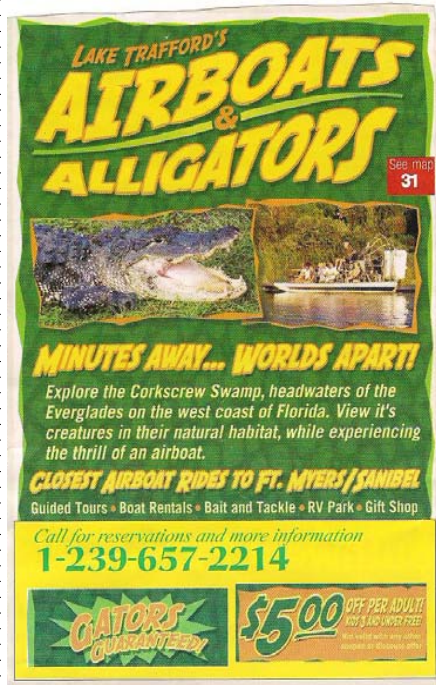
78 Vintage Yamaha 400 YZ - Bored 80 over, new tires, sprockets & chains. **VERY FAST, Experienced riders only!** \$1500.00 OBO

88 Kawasaki KX125 Pro Circuit - Ready to race, water cooled, all the bells and whistles. \$1500 OBO. Call Harold at 239-415-6496 for more info.

Call Harold at 239-415-6496 for more info.

Argon Bottle needed Cheep or free.

Call Hugh at 239-405-2219



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Home of Estero River's
 Legendary Party
 Deb & Charlie Halcomb
 19990 Corkscrew Rd
 Estero. FL 33928

We
 Love
 Bikers



Estero's Fun Run List

1. Frank Guarascio 239-287-9619

This will is a list of people who want to be called for a ride, putting your name on this list does not commit you to riding when called, but just to be called. To get your name on this list call me at 239-440-7258 or email me at erjournal@embarqmail.com Lets make this list grow!

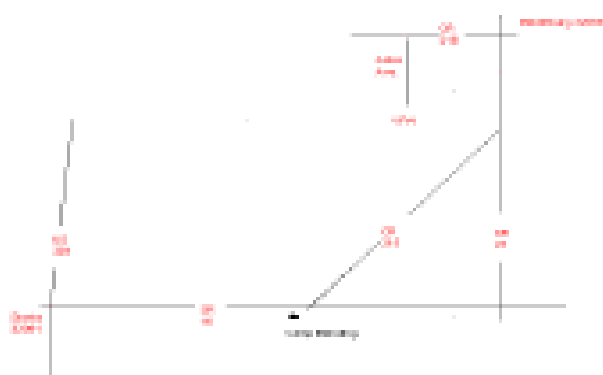
STATE MEETING

ABATE OF FLORIDA INC.

BLACK CREEK CHAPTER IS HOSTING DECEMBER STATE MEETING
DEC. 12 2009

STATE BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 12TH, SATURDAY **
STARTS AT 12 NOON
DELEGATES MEETING AT 2:00

LOCATION: VFW POST 8255 2296 ASTER AVE MIDDLEBURG FL 32068



Travel east on SR 16 approx. 9 miles bear left on CR 215 for approx. 6 miles turn left on SR 21 a for approx. 1.5 miles turn left on CR 215 approx. 1/2 of a mile to left on Aster Ave. to VFW on right

State Fl 32091 Area Hotels

Econo Lodge 880 n Temple Ave 904-864-7357

Must call before 12:00 Ask for ABATE Rate

For More Info

Other Area Hotels

Budget Inn 739 n Temple Ave 904-864-7143 \$9.99

Kevin 904-477-3382

Red Carpet 744 n Temple Ave 904-864-5599 \$9.99

HDA Campground 1475 S Walnut St 904-864-6484

Donations to ABATE of Florida, Inc are not deductible for Federal Income Tax purposes. ABATE of Florida, Inc does not condone drinking and driving.

Estero River is having a yard sale

Stan and Granny Lee's

18601 Dogwood Rd

Ft Myers FL 33967

(San Carlos Park)

Saturday January 9th

Starts at 8 AM

For questions directions and donations

Call Tammy 239-289-2647

or Granny Lee 239-265-2748



24 STAND UP FOR YOUR RIGHTS



Do you like deciding for yourself whether to
wear a lid or not?



Are you all for "Hit a Biker ~ Go to Jail"?

Would you like to see our roads safer? Would you like to help Git er done?

If you answered yes to any of these questions

WE NEED YOU! YOU NEED US!

ABATE of Florida, Inc is a non profit organization promoting motorcycle safety and Awareness and fighting for the rights of motorcyclists. We would like you to join the 7000 plus members statewide, fighting for the cause. We come from all walks of lives and join together for you. You don't need to own a bike or even ride to join. For more information contact one of the chapters below:

Ft Myers-Estero-Bonita Area
ESTERO RIVER CHAPTER

President: Tammy Brickley 239-289-2647

Naples Area

GATOR ALLEY CHAPTER

President: John Stevens 239-776-9690

North Ft Myers Area

SOUTHWEST CHAPTER

President: Frankie Kennedy 239-849-9065

Cape Coral Area

CALOOSAHATCHEE CHAPTER

President: Roy Steel 239-218-5582

Port Charlotte Area

PEACE RIVER CHAPTER

President: Greg Borden 941-468-0617



Help Keep the Y in Bonyta!

The YMCA needs you help and support. Please Join the YMCA in Bonita Springs.



We are proud of these accomplishments of the past year:

- ◆ The YMCA distributed over \$115,000 in scholarship to children and families in 2008.
- ◆ The YMCA provided another \$131,000 worth of free or subsidized programs in 2008.
- ◆ The YMCA Summer Camp served 1,055 children and provided \$35,808 in financial assistance for summer camp kids, representing 42% of the campers.
- ◆ In 2008, a total of 800 kids participated in youth sports. There were 896 practices, 336 games and over 110 volunteer coaches and referees.
- ◆ Drowning is the 2nd leading cause of accidental death in children in Florida. The Bonita YMCA provided swimming lessons to over 600 children in the community, with 150 of those children participating during our free Splash Week.

If you don't want to join but still want to help feel free to contact us at the phone number on this flyer.

We appreciate any and all the support we can get.

This is a very good thing for the most precious part of our Communities. The children. Call Sue for more information and all the Y has to offer.

Sue Stevens Office Manager
27200 Kent Road
Bonita Springs, FL 34135
(239) 992-9622

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Full page	\$ 35	\$ 65	\$ 85	\$ 165
Half page	\$ 25	\$ 45	\$ 65	\$ 125
Business Card 1/4 Page	\$ 15	\$ 25	\$ 45	\$ 85
ABATE Members get \$5 Off				

Mail to: ABATE of FL, Inc.

Estero River Chapter

Attn: Newsletter

PO Box 366760

Bonita Springs FL 34136-6760

Deadline for next months newsletter

20th of each month

Michelle

Phone: 239-440-7258

Email to: esterojournal@yahoo.com

Fax to: 239-948-6782



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Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Ad Size Bus. Card ☐ 1/2 Page ☐ Full Page ☐

How Long? 1 Month ☐ 3 Months ☐ 6 Months ☐ 1 Year ☐

Amount enclosed _____ Date to start Ad _____

Signature _____

Please Submit Ads in black & White whenever Possible

AD SIZE _____ AD LENGTH _____ START DATE _____

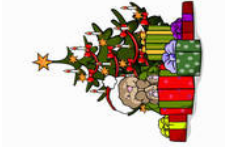
TODAY'S DATE _____ AMOUNT _____ CHECK # _____

Thank You for Your Support

Estero River Chapter

DECEMBER 2009

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Merry						
		1	2 Bike Nite Tiki Time BS	3	4 Biker Bible Cafe	5 Birthday Party
6	7	8	9 Bike Nite Tiki Time BS	10	11	12 ST Mtg Christmas Party
13	14	15	16 Bike Nite Tiki Time BS	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Bike Nite Tiki Time BS	24		26
27	28	29	30 Bike Nite Tiki Time BS	31		Christmas

JANUARY 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Chapter Mtg on the 24th at SCCC at 10 AM					1 Happy New Year to all!	2
3	4	5	6 Bike Nite Tiki Time BS	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Bike Nite Tiki Time BS	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Bike Nite Tiki Time BS	21	22 BOD Lynn's 7 PM	23
24	25 31	26	27 Bike Nite Tiki Time BS	28	29	30

Dear Fellow ABATE Members,

A Thanksgiving Story

(It ain't about the Pilgrims)

In reading the scriptures, Ephesians 5:19-20 tells us to give thanks in ALL things. ***“Speak out to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, offering praise with voices and making melody with all your heart to the Lord, at all times and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father.”***

A few years ago, a biker called me on the telephone, *collect*. He had never done that before. So, I asked, “Brother, why are you calling me collect?” He said, “Tom, I’m calling you from the county jail. Here’s my situation.”

This biker had been arrested on a four-year old warrant, based on improperly filed and false information. The biker had no idea this was coming, as he was truly innocent of all the charges. As such, he should have been in and out of jail in very little time and given his day in court. I got more calls and there seemed to be more delays in his release. So, I found a friendly Assistant Public Defender and reviewed my brother’s situation with him. The Assistant Public Defender said that he could help and it should not take much time to have the issue resolved and my friend released. As much as the Assistant Public Defender tried for a quick release, it took about three months to get all the issues resolved. Now, the biker who is in jail, all this time, has complete faith in God. But, because of his human nature, he is still wondering why God has allowed him to stay in jail, in what may seem to many, as an unjust situation. As it turns out, the biker was instrumental in leading three inmates to the Lord during that time! If the biker had not yielded fully to God during that time, three souls may still be facing an eternal disaster. Our friend was released with all charges totally dismissed!

Did you know what are possibly the greatest portions of New Testament scripture, were written while apostles were sitting in jail?

Did you know that one of the Watergate conspirators, one of the most powerful of men in the White House, found the Lord while in prison? Although he wasn’t thankful at the time he was arrested and started serving time, he eventually gave his thanks to God

. I seem to remember he said in an interview and/or one of his books, that if it wasn't for God allowing his arrest and eventual incarceration, he would have continued on the road of destruction, leading to his eventual damnation.

No matter what our situation(s) happen to be at this moment, can we just "let go and let God?" Can we thank Him for whatever situation(s) we find ourselves in? Can we ask Him that we may learn His wisdom in allowing, whatever we may find unpleasant at the time? We have hope in Romans 8:28 where it says, ***"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."***

To get to the point of thanking God for ALL our situations, may we suggest that we begin to thank God for sending His Son to die for us, to redeem us from the penalty of sin? If we can take His provision into our heart, then we can begin to fully appreciate why we should thank Him for all our situations. He will help us work everything through, according to His will.

Please pray. "Our dear Lord and God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. I thank you for who You are. I thank You for creating me and even giving the opportunity of knowing You. I thank you for even bringing me to this point to where I can acknowledge You and receive Your Son as My Lord and Savior. I confess that I am a sinner and have been separated from You. I ask forgiveness of my sins. I repent and accept this gift of repentance and I wish to be free in you. I confess with my mouth that your son Jesus is my Savior and died for me. I believe in my heart that You raised Him from the dead. I receive Jesus into my heart and ask Him to become the center of my life. I ask, in the Name of Jesus. Amen."

Blessings,

Pastor Tom (Estero River ABATE Life Member and Southwest Chapter Chaplain) and Kathy (SW ABATE Life Member)-

www.messiahsmessengers.org or tprovenz@comcast.net 239-267-8641

ABATE of Florida, Inc Gator Alley Chapter



presents the first annual

BIKE JAMBOREE 2010

featuring the 1st Annual

SLOW

"SLOW RACE" Championship

Registration 10:30am - 1:30pm, Prelims Start @ 2:00pm; Finals @ 4:00pm

Entry: \$1000 per participant

(this is considered the "Daytona" of slow racing)

1st place - \$150.00 gift certificate to
Harley Davidson of Naples

All You Can Eat
Pancake Breakfast
7:00 am - 10:30 am

Scavenger Hunt
Registration 7:30 am - Noon
Bike out @ 9:30 am
List bike in @ 6:00 pm

Bike Swap Meet
8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Bike Wash
9:30 am - 1:30 pm

Saturday
January 23, 2010

Pancake Breakfast starts @ 7:00 am

Bike Jamboree - 7:00 am until 10:00 pm

(check "Schedule of Events" for times)

Bike Show
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Food, Vendors
Music & much more...

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Harley Davidson of Naples

3645 Gateway Ln Naples, FL 34109

for more information
(including Vendor spaces)
contact:

Phil "Teach" DePuy, Chairperson

359-533-6674

gatorallem@abatefla.net

Rick "LowLoy" Loy, Co-Chairperson
vicepresident@gatoralley.net

Tim "Boppers" Loy, Co-Chairperson
specialevents@gatoralley.net

Membership and Safety Information Available

ABATE of Florida, Inc. does not condone drinking and driving
Donations to ABATE of Florida, Inc. are not deductible for income tax purposes



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

33



*Your birthday or Anniversary could be here
just call or email Michelle*



2 ~ GLEN CULBERTSON
2 ~ GREG SORENSON
2 ~ GUY DEROCHE
3 ~ KYMN RIMES
4 ~ TONJA LUTES
5 ~ BOB OSTERHOUDT
5 ~ JOHN CAPPONI, JR
7 ~ MICHELLE BEAKEN
7 ~ MINDY COLLIER
7 ~ DEW CUNNINGHAM
11 ~ BOBBY CLINE
13 ~ KEN ROCKWELL

14 ~ DICK CRANE
16 ~ CHRIS DURGIN
18 ~ JOHN KOMAR
18 ~ DEAN HINDERMAN
23 ~ TERRY LUGO
24 ~ CHRISTOPHER YOUNG
25 ~ CLIFF SMITH
26 ~ NELLY FIGUERDA
27 ~ BOB PENNOCK
28 ~ TAMMY BRICKLEY
31 ~ COLETTE HACKWORTH



Relay for Life is April 9th and 10th this year. If you are interested in being a part of the relay team, please call me.

If you have a business, or if you think your workplace or a place you frequent would be interested in sponsoring us or putting a collection can up, please let me know. Also

let's get some luminaries' bought so we can light up the track again this year. If you are a survivor there are special things for you so please let me know. I do realize some of you do not want to be recognized and I respect that choice, but if you can volunteer, please do so. I would like to have a team together by Oct 1st. I have 5 people volunteer do far, I need 10 more. Let's show SW Florida that Biker's care and Estero River Rocks! That's all for Relay for now, check your Newsletter for updates.

(239) 209-8292

Anthony DiCecco

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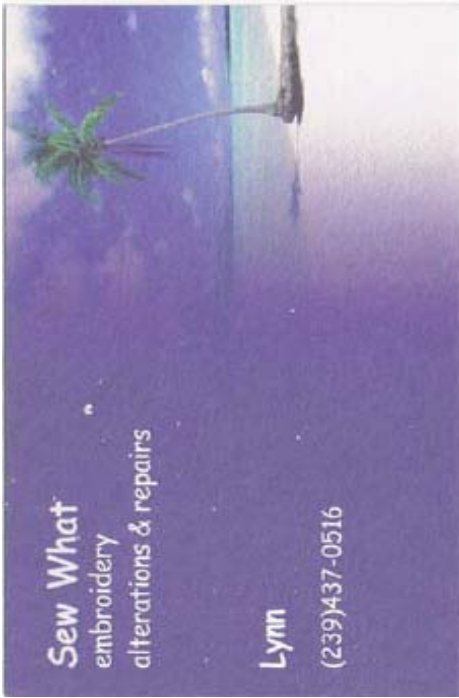
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Hi All,

I have awesome news to report...we have gone over 1000 page visits! Actually as of this printing 1018 people have visited our site since we redid the website. This tells me that ya'll are starting to rely on our web site as a very useful tool for keeping up with events and legislative goings on. Not to mention our Classifieds page (free to current members of our chapter).

Updates this month include:

New section for the Classifieds page called Services Provided. I created this for those of you who provide services such as computer repair, house cleaning, electrician, plumbers, etc. who are out of work and are looking for some side work. If you would like to be listed just contact me via email or phone and I'll get ya set up. Again, this is only for chapter members who are in good standing. No "ads" please, this is just a no frills written paragraph. If you would like to "Advertise" please contact Michelle Beaken, you can find her email address on our Board Members page.

Both October and November's Newsletters are posted for you to view or download.

Dates for the next BOD and Chapter meetings have been posted on the Homepage and Events page.

Board page updated to show Pam Cooke as our Legislative Rep.

That's it for now. Remember to keep the rubber side down.

Thanks,

Robin "[Alaska](#)" Hall, Webmaster
ABATE of Florida, Estero River Chapter

**HELP KEEP THE EARTH BEAUTIFUL
AND ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.
ESTERO RIVER CHAPTER**

Please save all newspapers, junk mail (without windows), magazines and white paper (staples are fine) Shredded paper in clear plastic bags only.

We are doing a fundraiser that not only helps keep our landfills empty but helps to raise funds so that we can keep motorcyclists safe on our roads and protect their rights.

You can call Tammy @ 289-2647 for pickup or more info or drop off your donations at the San Carlos Country Club

19137 S. Tamiami Trail San Carlos Park Fort Myers. 239-267-0500

Please no phonebooks, cardboard or plastic grocery bags.

Help us help others. Thank you





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Estero River Chapter




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Phone: 850-488-7146

Phone: 850-488-7146

Fax: 850-487-0801

Fax: 850-487-0801

Mailing Address:Office of the Governor
The Capitol

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Mailing AddressOffice of Governor
The Capitol

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001



THE SENATE

Senator Bill Nelson**Democrat****District Office**Justice Center Annex Building
2000 Main Street, Suite 801
Fort Myers, FL 33901
Phone: 239-334-7760
Fax: 239-334-7710**Capitol Office**United States Senate
716 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-5274
Fax: 202-228-2183<http://billnelson.senate.gov>**Senator Mel Martinez****Republican****District Office**2120 Main Street Suite 200
Fort Myers, FL 33901
Main: (239) 332-3898
Fax: (239) 332-3447**Capitol Office**United States Senate,
356 Russell Senate Office
Building
Washington, DC 20510<http://martinez.senate.gov>**Senator Mike Bennett****R-District 21****District Office:**Wildwood Professional Park, Suite 90
3653 Cortez Road West
Bradenton, FL 34210
Phone: 941-727-6349
Fax: 941-727-6352**Tallahassee Office:**306 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100
850-487-5078bennett.mike.web@flsenate.gov**Senator Dave Aaronberg****D-District 27****District Offices:**6415 Lake Worth Road, Suite 210
Greenacres, FL 33463
Phone: 561-433-2627
Fax: 561-434-3995

2120 Main Street Suite 206

Fort Myers, FL 33901
Phone: 239-338-2646
Fax: 239-338-2648**Tallahassee Office:**405 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100
Phone: 850-487-5356aronberg.dave.web@flsenate.gov**Senator Garrett Richter****R-District 37****District Offices:**Building F, Suite 203
3301 E. Tamiami Trail
Naples, FL 34112-4961
Phone: 239-417-62051039 S.E. 9th Place
Room 310Cape Coral, FL 33990
Phone: 239-338-2777
Fax: 239-338-2779**Tallahassee Office:**310 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100
Phone: 850-487-5124richter.garrett.web@flsenate.gov**Senator Lucernia J Bullard****D-District 39****District Office:**8603 S. Dixie Highway, Suite 304
Miami, FL 33143
Phone: 305-668-7344
Fax: 305-668-7346**Tallahassee Office:**218 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100
Phone: 850-487-5127bullard.lucenia.web@flsenate.gov

Congressman Connie Mack
R-District 14

Cape Coral Office:
804 Nicholas Parkway East Suite 1
Cape Coral, FL 33990
Phone: 239-573-5837
Fax: 239-573-9125

Naples Office:
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Administration Building Suite 105
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Fax: 239-252-8065

Washington Office:
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Fax: 202-226-0439
<http://mack.house.gov>



Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart
R-District 25

Collier County Office
4715 Golden Gate Parkway Suite 1
Naples, FL 34116
Telephone: (239) 348-1620
Fax: (239) 348-3569

Miami District Office
12851 SW 42nd Street Suite 131
Miami, FL 33175
Telephone: (305) 225-6866
Fax: (305) 225-7432

Washington, D.C. Office
328 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Telephone: (202) 225-2778
Fax: (202) 226-0346
<http://mariodiazbalart.house.gov/>

Rep. Nicholas R. "Nick" Thompson
District 73

District Office:
2120 Main Street Suite 208
Fort Myers, FL 33901-3010
Phone: (239) 533-2411

Capitol Office:
417 House Office Building
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 488-1541

Rep. Gary Aubuchon
District 74

District Office:
3501 Del Prado Boulevard Suite 305
Cape Coral, FL 33904-7223
Phone: (239) 344-4900

Capitol Office:
1301 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 488-7433

Rep. Trudi K. Williams
District 75

District Office:
12811 Kenwood Lane Suite 212
Fort Myers, FL 33907-5648
Phone: (239) 433-6775

Capitol Office:
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402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 488-2047

Rep. Tom Grady
District 76

District Office:
Suite 304, Administration
Building
3301 E. Tamiami Trail
Naples, FL 34112-4902
Phone: (239) 417-6200

Capitol Office:
412 House Office Building
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 488-4487

Rep. Denise Grimsley
District 77

District Office:
205 S. Commerce Ave Ste B
Sebring, FL 33870-3604
Phone: (863) 385-5251 or
Hendry County Courthouse
25 E Hickpoochee Avenue
LaBelle, FL 33935-5015
Phone: (863) 675-5267

Capitol Office:
400 House Office Building
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 488-3457

Rep. David Rivera
District 112

District Office:
2450 SW 137th Avenue Suite 205
Miami, FL 33175-6312
Phone: (305) 227-7630 or
Collier Cnty Admin Bldg. Ste 305
3301 East Tamiami Trail
Naples, FL 34112-3972
Phone: (239) 434-5094

Capitol Office:
223 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Phone: (850) 488-7897

Rep. Matt Hudson
District 101

District Office:
Admin Bldg, Suite 212
3301 East Tamiami Trail
Naples, FL 34112-3972
Phone: (239) 417-6270 or
10100 Pines Blvd. Bldg B, 3rd Fl
Pembroke Pines, FL 33026-6037
Phone: (954) 704-2990

Capitol Office:
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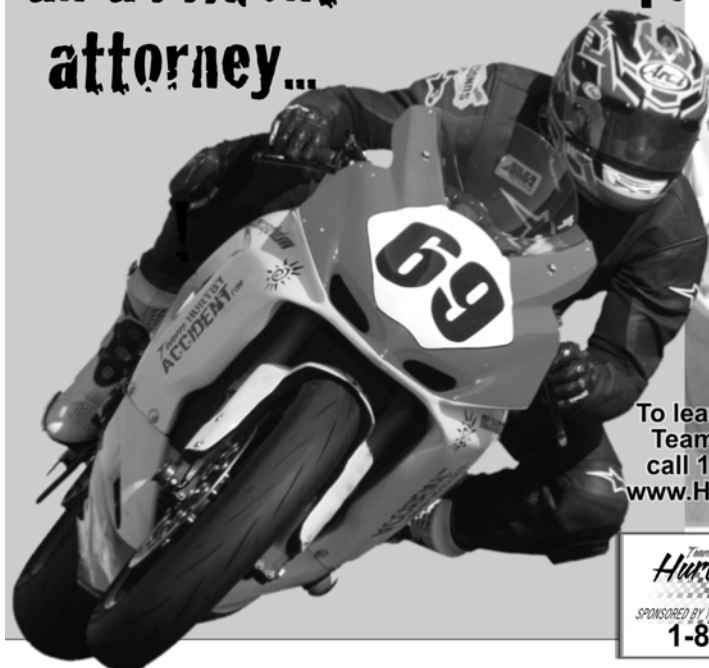
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BAD DRIVING IS IN THE GENES

Medical researchers say they've unraveled the mystery to bad drivers, and their genetic makeup may be to blame. A study recently published in the journal of Cerebral Cortex led by University of California, Irvine neuroscientists found that people with a certain gene variation performed more than 20% worse on a driving test than those without the gene and they also retained less of what they had learned.

About 30 percent of Americans have the particular gene variant, though A test to determine whether someone has the gene variant is not commercially available.

"This gene variant limits the availability of a protein called brain-derived neurotrophic factor during activity," according to the senior author, Dr. Steven Cramer, neurology associate professor at UCI. "BDNF keeps memory strong by supporting communication among brain cells and keeping them functioning optimally. When a person is engaged in a particular task, BDNF is secreted in the brain area connected with that activity to help the body respond."

Earlier research had found that in those individuals with the gene variant "a smaller portion of the brain is stimulated when doing a task than in those with a normal BDNF gene."

The driving test was taken by 29 people - 22 without the gene variant and seven with it. They were asked to drive 15 laps on a simulator that required them to learn the nuances of a track programmed to have difficult curves and turns. Researchers recorded how well they stayed on the course over time. Four days later, the test was repeated.

Results showed that people with the variant did worse on both tests than the other participants, and they remembered less the second time. "I'd be curious to know the genetics of people who get into car crashes," Cramer said. "I wonder if the accident rate is higher for drivers with the variant."

INCREASED MOTORCYCLIST DEATHS BLAMED ON BAD ECONOMY

Since gas prices increased, experts say more inexperienced riders have hit the road -- literally.

Because of the fuel efficiency of motorcycles, more drivers are switching from four wheels to two, and what used to be a symbol of freedom and adventure is now also a symbol of thriftiness. "Last year, our sales were the best we ever had for 33 years," said Al Lamb, owner of Dallas Honda, pointing out that bike sales peaked last year before dipping and rising again this year.

But Dr. Fernando Wilson, a professor at the University of North Texas Health Science Center, said for every dollar increase in gas prices, 1,500 more motorcycle riders die each year nationwide.

Some say car drivers need to hang up their cell phones and pay more attention, but many bikers attribute higher crash rates to the influx of new, inexperienced riders on the road.

"If you mess up on a motorcycle, it's probably a lot more tragic than in a vehicle," motorcyclist Stephen Dutcher told TV-33 News, recommending that new riders should get trained beyond state testing requirements. "I would recommend everyone to take the Motorcycle Safety Foundation course."

MOTORCYCLE SALES ARE RUNNING OUT OF GAS

Last year, fuel-efficient motorcycles proved to be a viable option for motorists facing higher and higher gas prices, but following more than a decade of steadily increasing sales figures, the economic downturn has caught up to bike makers.

For 14 years, through 2006, U.S. motorcycle sales had increased every year. Sales started to drop in 2007 but still topped the 1 million mark.

A year ago, as gas prices pushed toward \$5 a gallon, fuel-sipping two-wheelers got a boost.

Despite the worsening economy, street bike sales were down only 3.3% in 2008 and smaller scooters enjoyed their best year ever, posting a 41.5% gain, according to the Motorcycle Industry Council.

Now, little seems to be working for motorcycle manufacturers as sales have plunged 38% in the third quarter from the same period a year ago (falling from 218,242 last year to 136,876), with the biggest drops coming in two of the industry's biggest product lines: cruisers and sport bikes. Scooter sales are also down 62% through the first three quarters of 2009.

The only bright spot was that sales are dropping at a slower pace: The number of bikes sold in the second quarter fell 53.5 percent from the same period a year earlier. Historically, the second and third quarters are strong for the industry because the weather generally is warm and buyers are gearing up to ride, according to an article appearing in the Chicago Tribune.

Despite a federal stimulus that allows bike buyers to write off the sales tax, sagging sales have prompted bike builders to begin cutting staff and other expenses.

Last week, publicly held Harley-Davidson Inc. reported an 84% drop in quarterly earnings to \$26.5 million. The company said it was getting out of the sport-bike business, shutting down the longtime Buell line and selling its MV Augusta operation, a high-end Italian brand it bought last year.

Already this year, the Milwaukee manufacturer joined the likes of Honda, Kawasaki, Yamaha, Suzuki and Victory in laying off employees, reducing production and dropping prices to help dealers shrink swollen inventories.

Mark Blackwell, vice president of Victory Motorcycles, which suffered a 56% decline in the July-September period, told the Los Angeles Times "We haven't laid everybody off. We haven't totally stopped advertising. We've kept up the product development because we're positioning this business for when the market stabilizes and grows."

Harley-Davidson and Victory, a division of Polaris in Minnesota, hope to stem U.S. losses, in part, by growing overseas sales. Harley is pursuing emerging markets such as India and China; Victory is going after Europe.

But with the riding season over for much of the country, summer 2010 can't come fast enough for the industry.

NEW MOTORCYCLE EMISSIONS STANDARDS TAKING EFFECT

As 2010 motorcycles hit dealer showrooms, new EPA emissions standards will be making them greener. both environmentally and economically.

Starting next year when stricter Environmental Protection Agency guidelines on motorcycle emissions come into effect for all new two- and three-wheelers built or sold in the U.S., the EPA projects a 50% reduction in pollutants emitted at their tailpipes -- but such drastic reductions come with a bigger price tag: According to a 2003 EPA report, the average estimated cost per highway motorcycle to meet the 2010 standards is \$45, which is likely passed along to consumers. At the same time, motorcyclists are likely to save money at the pump as the new technology brings with it better fuel efficiency.

Increased use of technologies demonstrated as effective in 4-stroke motorcycle engines, such as the catalytic converters, secondary air injection and electronic fuel inject systems, are expected to decrease harmful emissions, according to a 2003 EPA report. The report also reads, however, that the standards will not result in universal use of Catalytic converters.

Catalytic converters are pollution control devices that reduce nitrogen oxides, hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide, and while not specifically required by the EPA rules, catalytic converters will have a hand in reducing emissions in the new standards.

"We already have the 2010 models coming in, and they all have the catalytic converters on them," Steve Tuschmidt Sr., owner of Mid-America Harley Davidson, told the Columbia Missourian newspaper. "That's new."

The more stringent EPA standards won't affect existing motorcycles. The emissions limits will only apply to motorcycles and scooters manufactured after the effective date.

PHOENIX SEEKS EXEMPTION FROM MOTORCYCLE EMISSIONS TESTING

The state of Arizona is asking the federal government to lift emissions testing requirements for motorcycles in the Phoenix metro area.

Following prolonged and extensive lobbying by statewide motorcycle rights organizations, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality has petitioned the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to exempt motorcycles from such testing.

According to lobbyists for ABATE of Arizona, the Modified Motorcycle Association (MMA) of Arizona and the Arizona Confederation of Motorcycle Clubs (ACMC), Phoenix is the only major metro area in the U.S. where motorcycles are required to be tested for emissions. The biker Advocacy groups have already fought successfully to exempt motorcycles from emissions testing in the Flagstaff area, and several years ago the Kentucky Motorcycle Association succeeded in exempting motorcycles from such testing.

According to the Phoenix Business Journal, the ADEQ said motorcycles make up only 3.5 percent of vehicles tested in the Valley and not only are emissions failure rates among motorcycles down, repairs to put them in compliance do not substantially help air quality.

The EPA requires metro areas and regions of the U.S. with air pollution and air quality problems to test cars, trucks and other vehicles for emissions. EPA would need to approve an exemption before next July for it to take effect.

NYC MAYOR CONTRIBUTES TO GLOBAL ROAD SAFETY

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg is donating \$125 million to road safety programs in middle and low income countries.

Bloomberg gave \$9 million in 2007 to a pilot program on road safety in Vietnam and Mexico, and his latest gift expands the effort to a 5-year program in eight other countries that have high numbers of traffic injuries and fatalities.

His philanthropic foundation announced that the donation will help efforts to reduce speeding and drunken driving, and increase the use of Motorcycle helmets, child seats and seatbelts.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "For years governments have been promising more than they can deliver, and delivering more than they can afford."
Paul Martin (1938 - ?), 21st Prime Minister of Canada

Watch Newsletter for ABATE Blood Drives

ABATE OF FLORIDA now has a blood bank. Our account is ABATE of Florida #1138. Please remember this, so when you donate blood, you can put it our account. Or if you need blood or someone in your immediate family tell them this account number. Put it in your head, I already have it memorized. **THIS NUMBER COULS SAVE YOUR LIFE OR THE LIFE OF SOMEONE ELSE!** Say it with me 1138. If you have any questions call any Board member. If they don't know the answer, they will get it for you. Numbers are listed on the inside front cover of your newsletter. I have listed the three Blood Centers for Lee County:

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Florida's Blood Centers-Ft. Myers
3714 Evans Avenue
Ft Myers FL 33901
239-939-1811 ~ Fax 239-936-8654

Hours: Mon Wed Fri 9:00 AM-5:00 PM ~ Tue Thu 11:00 AM-7:00 PM

Florida's Blood Centers-Ft. Myers
South Town Center
16327 S. Tamiami Trail Unit #7



52 NOW FROM YOU KNOW WHO

Hello everyone,

Since there will be no meeting in December I want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas. I am with Neck on this, Merry Christmas is politically correct, after all if the baby Jesus was not born we would not be discussing this.

I think we need to take the commercialism and politics out of it. If your religion does not celebrate it, just smile and say thank you or same to you. When some one of Jewish decent wishes me a happy Hanukkah I thank them. If you must bring in politics then remember United we stand, divided we fall.

I also want to wish you all a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year and hope I didn't offend anyone. After all we are not in the third grade anymore.

I love you all Estero River, you are my Florida Family.



ESTERO RIVER WELCOMES OUR NEW LIFE MEMBER

Theodore Thomas Arenatis

ESTERO RIVER WELCOMES THESE 4 NEW MEMBERS

Louie Tirocchi, Daniel Howell, David A Cannell, Debi Chesebro

WE THANK THESE 4 MEMBERS FOR RENEWING

Bruce H Edson -2 Renee Kunkel -3, Richard F Robinson Jr. -2, Deborah "Debbie" Stierwalt-2,

THESE 17 MEMBERS ARE DELINQUENT

Diane Burnett, Donna Cassidy, John Cochran, Crissy Covington, Cindy Crawley, Dew Cunningham,
 Steven D'Onfrio, Robert Linares, John Linkous, Teresa Linkous, Mike Naylor, James O'Laughlin, Molly Plank,
 Ken Rockwell, Robert Stembel, John Trione, Phil Zachman

**If you know where these members are, please remind them they are about to be pulled and have them contact me*

THESE 30 MEMBERS EXPIRE IN DECEMBER

Walt Bachman, Lisa Bowen, William E Bowen, Dee Brinker, Don Buchanan, Dick Crane, Sandee Davis,
 Danny Fisher, Tom Foster, Cindy Fowler, Betty Gardner, Brian "BJ" Hughes, Don O'Brien,
 Bob Osterhoudt, Gary Patterson, Kyle Peltz, Bob Pennock, Barb Poisson, Ed Poisson,
 Dave "Pullock" Prusack, Stan Rendziniak, Michael Roberts, Jim Shafer, William Snyder, Lucille Spuhler, David
 White, Doug White, Ella Mae Luethje, Glenn Luethje, Michael Minton

THESE 17 MEMBERS EXPIRE IN JANUARY

Andy Lawton-2, Anna "Jake" Poster-11, Bob Mims-2, Darrel Shaw-1, Diane Trippany-2,
 Dwain Hackworth-2, Eric Slesinski-1, Fred Retterer-5, Gary Smith-4, John Bouwman-1,
 Kirk Richardson-4, Kymn Rimes-1, Laurie Jackson-4, Lenny Cinquegrano-1, Rebecca Nurse-1,
 Richard Carpenter-1, Robert Sousa-1

**If you renewed early, your name may still appear under expirations until your renewal month, but
 rest assured you are renewed*

NOVEMBER LIFE ANNIVERSARIES

Pam Cooke-3, Kevin Brickley-10, Dave Rimes-2, Jennifer Pomperoy-10, Chuck Walowich-10,
 John Komar-13, Peggy Bridenbaker-9

**If you are owed a pin, come see me or give me a call. Exception is 1 year pin, see products, also if you lost a pin
 see products, that's Lynn for those of you who don't know.*

303 MEMBERS

Your membership expires the last day of your anniversary Month. Renewals must be received or
 postmarked on or prior to the last calendar day of that month. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**
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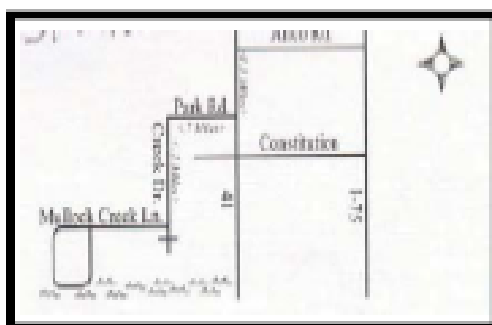
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CHAPTER MEETING JANUARY 24
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