

FREEDOM ISN'T FREE ! GET INVOLVED !



A.B.A.T.E. of Northern Nevada



Don't Forget the Motorcycle Rider's Foundation Best of the West Conference is Being Held in Elko June 2007. Please Call Connie at 744-4570 to volunteer. We need at least 15 volunteers from A.B.A.T.E. to make this event a success.



John Bland, President

January 2007

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We cancelled bike night this fall because of the lack of participation. It has now become apparent that Dale and I need to be getting together at least once a week in preparation for the 2007 legislative session. I suggested to Dale that we meet Thursdays, call it bike night, and if anyone shows up great. If not, we will proceed with working out our legislative strategy ourselves; we can always count on Vicky and Connie to be there. Low and behold! We had a great ABATE turn out at our Thursday bike night at Chef Chang's. I really appreciate everyone showing up. It can get discouraging if we don't get enough support from our own members to keep up the freedom fight. Just being present at bike night and at our monthly Round Table meeting is very much appreciated. Dale and I

need all the support and encouragement we can get as we prepare for battle.

We only have about 3 months to accomplish everything we need to do prior to the legislative hearing. The hearing on the helmet bill is estimated to be in March but this can fluctuate a month or more. The most important task ahead for us is to inform as many motorcyclists in the state as possible that we do have a bill draft introduced and will have a bill number soon to repeal Nevada's helmet law. Our goal is to bombard the legislators with a large number of emails, phone calls and letters in support of changing Nevada's helmet law. We must be successful at rallying Nevada motorcyclists and all freedom fighters. This is the most powerful and persuasive action

we can take to influence the legislators to change Nevada's helmet law! We must make every effort to unite the bikers of this state and orchestrate a unified effort to tell the legislators we want this law changed! They cannot ignore us if we show them that a large amount of their constituents want the helmet law changed. If we fail to get the Nevada motorcyclists to unite there is little hope we can influence the legislators. Dale and I are working to get on the Northern Confederation of Motorcycle Clubs January meeting agenda. We will inform them of our accomplishments and request their assistance in notifying motorcyclists of the state of the upcoming helmet bill. We will ask that all their members join in writing, emailing, and

calling the legislators to support the helmet bill. We will ask they be present during the hearing in Carson. We need as many supporters as possible to fill the legislative building. We will also be sending flyers to motorcycle shops in the state informing them of the upcoming helmet bill. There are two radio stations in Las Vegas that have D Js that ride. I will be contacting them and asking if they would assist us with getting the word out about the upcoming helmet bill. I am hoping they will consider giving me a little radio time to rally Nevada's motorcyclists. I will be contacting Sindy Scarce, owner and editor of the S-Curve motorcycle magazine and asking her to inform her readers of the helmet bill. We will be contacting the Southern Confederation of Motorcycle Clubs and ask for their support. After our BDR receives a bill number we will email the legislators bi-weekly with short memos informing them of helmet facts. Vicky Andrus is working on getting someone to help us update and revise

Message from the President Continued.

our web site so that it is more informative and more user friendly. Information on the helmet bill should be easily acquired from our home page. We are talking about organizing a bike rally in Carson during the legislative session. This would be very powerful in informing the legislators and general public that we have a helmet bill introduced and we want Nevada's helmet bill changed. Our bill draft is written asking for full repeal of the helmet law without age limit, increased insurance, donation of organs etc. attached. We will consider an age limitation as a negotiating tool but we do not want unfair insurance stipulations or donation of organ requirements. This is America, not Germany in the 1930s. All of this costs money and we need funds. We are discussing mailing out self addressed envelopes asking our members to donate money to help defray costs for our trips to Carson, mailings etc. So, if you receive a note from ABATE asking for money please be generous, 100% of this money will be used to repeal Nevada's helmet law.

The progress we have made in the last two years is very impressive. Jim Gibbons is on our side and will sign our helmet bill if we can get it through the legislature. John Ellison, ABATE member, President of NACO, Nevada Association of County Commissioners, the most powerful organization in the state, will speak in support of our bill during the legislative hearing. Charlie Myers, chair of the Elko County Commissioners and ABATE member has obtained 100% support from their board. Ken Wellington, ABATE member that ran for Sheriff is very active supporting ABATE issues. We have aligned ourselves with the freedom fighters of our community and state. We have spent the last two years learning and preparing for this years legislative hearing. We must get the motorcyclists informed and involved to write, email, and call the legislators when the time comes. I can't over emphasize the importance of this, it is what will turn the tide, and give us the freedom of voluntary motorcycle helmet use.

The Mayor of Salt Lake City, Utah is recommending a mandatory helmet law for all motorcyclists and bicyclists regardless of age. I wrote and forwarded the following email to the mayor:

Dear Mayor Rocky Anderson,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to any city or state mandated helmet law. It is not governments roll to be our mother. This is America, the land of the free! I suggest educating the general public about known risks, hazards and helmets, and trust them to make the proper decisions regarding their children's safety or their own. I have read statistics that cell phone use is known to cause more automobile accidents and deaths than drunk drivers now. I suggest your safety committees look at reducing accidents instead of trying to find ways to increase the survival rate after the accident has happened. Restrict cell phone use, a helmet will be of little value to the child on a bicycle or motorcyclists hit by the vehicle operated by a cell phone user. Bicyclists and motorcyclists are being hit by inattentive automobile operators. It is wrong to mandate armor for the cyclists hoping to increase survival rate after being hit and not address the automobile driver, the cause of the accident.

Wishing you a happy New Year and freedom of choice in 2007

John Bland, President – ABATE of Northern Nevada

Living on the Edge

By CJ

O.K. the holidays are over and it's a new year. I haven't made any New Years resolutions so I don't have to worry about breaking them this year. My plate seems quite full as I think about ABATE's upcoming schedule of events. I do want to remind everyone of the June Motorcycle riders Foundation, Best of the West Conference. I still need volunteers. Remember if you are an ABATE member in good standing, (dues paid) you will only have to pay for your Sat. night dinner for the conference. At the conference we will be hosting motorcyclists from around the nation and it's important that we put our best foot forward. If you can volunteer that weekend, June 22-24, 2007 please e-mail me with your contact information at historicleenv@frontiernet.net The following is a letter I have sent to Governor Jim Gibbons:

December 17, 2006

Governor Jim Gibbons, State of Nevada
Capital Complex
Carson City, NV 89710

Dear Governor Gibbons,

A.B.A.T.E. of Northern Nevada would like to extend an invitation to you to speak at the Motorcycle Riders Foundation, "Best of the West" Conference in Elko, Nevada on June 23, 2007. The conference will be held at the Red Lion Inn and Casino. We would ask that you be our guest speaker at the Saturday night banquet.

Since 1985 over 7000 motorcyclist rights activists have attended Motorcycle Riders Foundation sponsored regional and national workshops. These workshops provide the nuts and bolts, "user friendly" subjects and training to assist motorcyclists in defending, building, and strengthening their grass roots organizations.

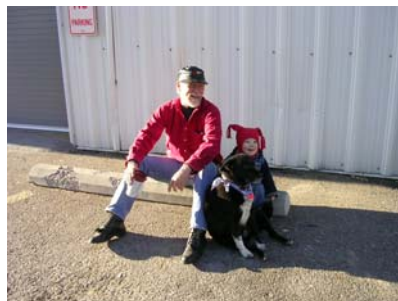
As a fellow motorcyclist and friend of A.B.A.T.E. of Northern Nevada, we would be honored to have you and the first lady as our guests at the 7:00pm banquet. A.B.A.T.E. has been privileged to host this conference in Elko. This will be the first visit to Elko by many of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation board members as the main headquarters is in Washington DC. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us at any time. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

John Bland, President
A.B.A.T.E. of Northern Nevada
775-744-4570
historicleenv@frontiernet.net



Strappin' down the Choppa'



John, Garrett, and Dyna



The Whole Float Building Bunch,
less one photographer.

*Parade of Lights
December 2006*



Setting up the Tree



The Tree Kept Falling Over. . . .
To be continued. . . .



Christmas for Kids Leads the Way



Many Thanks to
Big and Rail for their Help!!!

DO SOMETHING TO PROTECT
YOUR RIGHTS
JOIN A.B.A.T.E. TODAY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Jr. Membership (16 & Under) \$5.00

Name: _____

NEW/RENEWAL

SINGLE

1 Year \$20.00

COUPLE

1 Year \$30.00

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

(SINGLE) \$250.00 / (COUPLE) \$375.00

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

E-mail Address _____

I understand that all benefits become effective upon receipt of my membership card. I agree to hold harmless A.B.A.T.E. of Northern Nevada for any accident that may occur at A.B.A.T.E. of Northern Nevada sanctioned events.

Signed _____

Date _____

Comments, Suggestions, Problems or any way you can help A.B.A.T.E. of Northern Nevada

Mail Applications to:
A.B.A.T.E. of Northern Nevada
P. O. Box 1566
Elko, NV 89803
abatennv.org

Office Use Only
Date _____ Rcvd\$ _____ By _____

FYI:

Here's NRS 486.231. Protective headgear and glasses: Standards; when use required.

1. The Department shall adopt standards for protective headgear and protective glasses, goggles or face shields to be worn by the drivers and passengers of motorcycles and transparent windscreens for motorcycles.
2. Except as provided in this section, when any motorcycle, except a trimobile or moped, is being driven on a highway, the driver and passenger shall wear protective headgear securely fastened to the head and protective glasses, goggles or face shields meeting those standards. Drivers and passengers of trimobiles shall wear protective glasses, goggles or face shield which meet those standards.
3. When a motorcycle or a trimobile is equipped with a transparent windscreen meeting those standards, the driver and passenger are not required to wear glasses, goggles or face shields.
4. When a motorcycle is being driven in a parade authorized by a local authority, the driver and passenger are not required to wear the protective devices provided for in this section.
5. When a three-wheel motorcycle, on which the driver and passengers ride within an enclosed cab, is being driven on a highway, the driver and passengers are not required to wear the protective devices required by this section.

9. How does a helmet get added to NHTSA's approved helmet list? DOT or NHTSA does not "approve" motorcycle helmets, thus, there is no list of "approved" helmets. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has the statutory authority to issue Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) applicable to motor vehicles and items of motor vehicle equipment, including motorcycle helmets. The law establishes a self-certification process in which the motorcycle helmet manufacturers certify that their products are in compliance with FMVSS No. 218, which establishes minimum performance requirements that the products must meet. NHTSA enforces the standard by randomly selecting and purchasing motorcycle helmets from the marketplace and testing to the requirements of the standard at independent test labs. (source unknown)

Check Out these Websites:

www.mrf.org
www.bikernation.us
www.ldrlongdistancerider.com
www.lets-ride.com
www.nevadagop.org
www.thereidworld.com
www.dambikers.com (good jokes)
www.harleylovers.proboards56.com
www.CycleQuest.com
www.AMAdirectlink.com
www.motorcyclists-against-dumb-drivers.com

If you have a favorite website, send it to me and I'll post it. Thanks, Deb

More of Parade of Lights



Tom and Maria



STAY!!!You stupid Tree.

Fellow Freedom Fighters: *(From Bruce Arnold)*

How the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) works is defined by its CODE OF REGULATIONS, a PDF you can download from here:

http://www.amadirectlink.com/whatis/ama_code_of_regulations.pdf

Control of the AMA is centralized in the 12 members of its Board of Directors, 6 of which represent Individual Members, and 6 of which represent Corporate Members:

<http://www.amadirectlink.com/whatis/trustees.asp>

There is also an "AMA Congress" ...

<http://home.ama-cycle.org/amaccess/congress/index.asp>

... but according to the AMA Code, its function is primarily to make "non binding recommendations". The Code clearly states that "The Directors shall have the power to review, approve, modify, and revoke any action taken by the AMA Congress".

So as I read it, the AMA is controlled absolutely by a 12-member Board of Directors, 50% (6) of which are elected by the 280,000+ AMA Individual Members, and 50% (6) of which are selected by its less than 60 Corporate Members:

<http://www.amadirectlink.com/whatis/corpmbrs.asp>

In terms of power and influence, then, these AMA Corporate Members obviously swing a much bigger stick than Individual Members like you and I do. That is not necessarily a bad thing, but when I see names like the following on the Corporate Members list...

AIG SPECIALTY AUTO INSURANCE
FOREMOST INSURANCE GROUP
GRANGE INSURANCE
NATIONWIDE INSURANCE
SELMAN & COMPANY (INSURANCE)
SMSA (The National Association of State Motorcycle Safety Administrators)

... I have to ask:

IS THE AMA SLEEPING WITH THE ENEMY? IS THIS WHY THE AMA TAKES NO ACTION TO COUNTER THE AAA HELMET LAW LOBBY?

This is NOT an accusation. It is a Request For Comments, which you can post here:

<http://pub42.bravenet.com/forum/3562429698/fetch/768899/>

Ride Long, Ride Free!

Bruce Arnold
Bruce@LdrLongDistanceRider.com
<http://www.ldrlongdistancerider.com/>

It's Real Easy to email our legislators

Go To:

www.leg.state.nv.us

Session Info

Choose 2007 Session

There You Will Find:

Bill Information

The BDR List

Legislator Information

(Senate and Assembly)

Committee Information

Social Calendar and More

If you want to email a certain

Legislator go to Legislator Information

Find the Legislator you want to email and

click on the legislator's email address.

As soon as we have a bill number and

Can vote online, we'll let you know.

NEWSFLASH!!

We now have BDR 798 to repeal the Protective Headgear law. This will be written and introduced by our friend Bob Beers. Please send him an email (bobbeers@bobbeers.net) thanking him for his help.

NEVADA'S PUBLIC SERVANTS

Gov. Jim Gibbons
State Capitol Building
Carson City, NV 89710
Phone: 775-684-5670

Sen. John Ensign
U. S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: 202-224-6244
Fax: 202-228-2193

Sen. Harry Reid
U. S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510
Toll-Free Phone:
1 (866) SEN-REID (736-7343)
Fax: 202-224-7327

State Sen. Dean Rhoads
P. O. Box 8
Tuscarora, NV 89834
Phone 756-6582
Fax: 775-756-5544
Drhoads@sen.state.nv.us

The Honorable Dean Heller
1023 Longworth Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-6155

Assemblyman John Carpenter
1091 Dotta Drive
Elko, NV 89801
Phone: 738-9861
Fax: 775-738-4593
jcarpenter@asm.state.nv.us

Assemblyman John Marvel
P. O. Box 1270
Battle Mountain, NV 89802
Phone: 635-2538
Fax: 775-635-9144
jmarvel@asm.state.nv.us

Assemblyman Pete Goicoechea
P. O. Box 97
Eureka, NV 89316
Phone: 775-237-5300
Fax: 775-237-5100
pgoicoechea@asm.state.nv.us

ELKO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Elko County Courthouse
571 Idaho Street
Elko, NV 89801

Charlie Myers
934-8118 or 738-4746
charlesmyers@citlink.net

Sheri Eklund-Brown
738-5612 or 738-4773

John Ellison
738-6284

Mike Nannini
752-3748 or 738-4078

Warren Russell
753-4723

Non-Bikers Always Know Better

Arizona Republic, Dec. 20, 2006 (CycleQuest The Sidecar 1/4/06)

Regarding the recent editorial and letters to the editor about helmet laws:

People who don't ride motorcycles always think they know more than people who do. Long-time riders know that the only way to avoid injury with a car is to avoid the accident. That shiny helmet might protect the head, but the energy of the impact will telegraph to the neck/spinal column, which breaks at only 7 pounds of pressure . . . save the 'head trauma,' create a paraplegic.

Spines, spleens and necks are all one snap away from terrible injury when a car hits a bike, and that is how accidents happen. It has nothing to do with horsepower; it has everything to do with cars taking the right-of-way from a bike. Helmet do-gooders never mention this, although it is an indisputable fact.

If you want to save biker lives, take the cellphones away from housewives in SUVs full of screaming kids. If you want to save biker lives, give us some respect instead of running us off the road with your Beemer.

You want a helmet law? Make it across the board, in cars as well; see how much 'sense' that one makes. - Tim Galus, Scottsdale

ONE NEVADA

The following is the full text of Gov. Gibbons' inauguration speech...

Mr. Chief Justice, Lieutenant Governor Krolicki, members of the State Senate and Assembly, honorable Justices of the Supreme Court, constitutional officers, distinguished guests, members of my family -my fellow Nevadans:

First, on behalf of our State, I would like us to take a moment now to express our gratitude to the men and women who are serving in uniform, not only in this state but also around the world, making sacrifices every day to preserve and protect freedom and democracy.

Also, please join me in saluting President Gerald Ford. His lifetime was dedicated in service to God, Country, and freedom. America was blessed to have his leadership and wisdom at a very difficult time in our nation's history.

Next, I wish to thank my predecessor, Governor Guinn, for his many years of service to Nevada.

Today, we celebrate the democratic transfer of power from one administration to another. It is a transfer that was born in the fall and celebrated in the winter, here today; and which by its very nature, heralds the hope of coming Spring and the Summer that follows.

We now have a unique opportunity and challenge--to take the nearly 143 years of growth and progress that has created the Nevada of today, and set a course for the future.

A future that brings together the diverse communities and citizens of this great state into a common cause- One Nevada. Together we can create a new ideal of what it is to live the American Dream. One Nevada is a place where all of our communities set aside what separates us, and embrace what unites us from our citizens who mine the earth, drive trucks along our highways, or serve our tourists in our hotels, to those that teach in our schools and those who enforce our laws, we come together ONE Nevada.

We are striving to create a better state that will continue to be the envy of all those who seek hope and the opportunity for themselves and their families.

In order to achieve real results for all Nevadans, I know I must reach across the aisle, and understand that the shared patriotism I have with each person here today does not create barriers but builds bridges.

In order to reclaim the American Dream for all Nevadans, to truly have One Nevada- we must not only build these bridges- we must cross them together.

We must not allow the interest of one part of the State to override the concerns of another. Some would call that politics. I would call it turning our backs on the lessons of history, for any great society that pits one group against another is bound to fail.

The test of leadership is to find common ground and then to lead the way. That challenge, to find One Nevada is one that we shall not shrink from.

One Nevada (continued from Page 8.)

When Nevada's first Governor, James Nye, placed his hand upon the Bible, he affirmed that the supreme executive power of this state shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate, and he solemnly swore to see that all laws are faithfully executed.

It is this same oath that I have taken, and I am equal to the challenge.

On that day in 1864, Governor Nye initiated a long-lasting tradition for governors who, in addition to their constitutional duties, assumed the enormous task of leading the people of Nevada - a tradition of striking the right balance and course for our fledgling population, and determining this rugged western state's destiny.

In the past fifty years, our governors have strived to improve upon what Governor Nye and others had begun. They made the tough decisions; together they oversaw the greatest expansion in Nevada's history and they contributed mightily to the protection of the Nevada way of life.

"Letting Nevadans decide what is best for Nevada" is a hallmark of our state that has guided each governor that has served before me, and it shall guide my administration just the same.

Let us strive to strike a balance between listening to the people and governing them. In Ronald Reagan's second inaugural address as Governor of California, he said that "when those who are governed do too little, those who govern can - and often will - do too much."

Fortunately, for the past 143 years, this state has been blessed with leaders who knew just how much to govern - and with citizens who set the path for them to be led. That is the balance that we must strive for every day.

All of us must share a common vision of one Nevada - which can only become a reality if we agree upon what promises that vision entails.

It is a promise to make all decisions with fiscal discipline and strive to renew our faith in the American Dream - a dream of home ownership, safe streets and bountiful opportunity.

(From Chuck Muth's Nevada News & Views chuck@chuchmuth.com January 3, 2007)

**Christmas for Kids, Inc.
Election of Officers
January 18, 2007**



100's of Stuffed Animals



Connie with grinch hands and froggy hat at the party after the parade.

FREEDOM ISN'T FREE ! GET INVOLVED !

A.B.A.T.E. of Northern Nevada
P. O. Box 1566
Elko, NV 89803

John Bland and Connie Campbell 744-4570
E-mail historicleenv@frontiernet.net
Dale Andrus 738-5568
E-mail hddude98@hotmail.com
Lesli Andrus 777-7955
E-mail: leslide@msn.com

Webmaster: Bud Jacobsen
Membership Coordinator: Trudy Whetton
Newsletter Editor: Debbie Bonetti
debodyna@frontiernet.net

A.B.A.T.E.'s Website: www.abatennv.org

Christmas for Kids, Inc.

Vicky Andrus – President 777-7955
Jacque Orr – Vice President
Trudy Whetton – Secretary
Jenn Hobbs – Treasurer

**Freedom Isn't Free
Join A.B.A.T.E. Today**

Christmas for Kids, Inc.

**Election for New Officers
January 18, 2007**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **A.B.A.T.E. Meeting January 18, 2007 Note: (One week later than usual.)**
(A.B.A.T.E. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at 7:00 P.M. at the Round Table by Raley's.)
- **Watch for emails on upcoming events. We are planning another Flea Market in February.**

Dale's Helmet Ticket Hearing is January 9, 2007 at 2:00pm.

- **Bike Nite has been reinstated to prepare for the Legislative hearing. Watch for e-mails stating where. When, is every Thursday at 6:00. (except No bike nite on 1/11/06)**

Call Deb at 738-6015 If you'd like to list your event here.