



FREEDOM ISN'T FREE ! GET INVOLVED !

A.B.A.T.E. OF NORTHERN NEVADA

Freedom Isn't Free
Join A.B.A.T.E. of Northern Nevada Today

March 2006

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Republican Lincoln Day reception and dinner was held Friday evening February 24th at the Museum and the Red Lion Casino. Connie and I, Dale and Vicky Andrus, Marvin and Jacque Orr were present representing ABATE of Northern Nevada. All of us got a chance to discuss freedom of choice with the candidates. Jim Gibbons visited with us for about 20 minutes, he confirmed his earlier position that he believes that motorcycle helmet use should be an adult freedom of choice and that he will sign a bill giving this freedom back if we can get it through the legislature. He reminded us that he does ride a motorcycle and he does enjoy riding without a helmet. Jim took the time to give us some in-site to the legislative process and shared his knowledge of how to influence legislators to support our bill. Jim said that it's time that this law is changed. That comment confirmed a belief that I have about this helmet issue, it has not gone away, and keeps reappearing each legislative session. The legislators can't keep ignoring this issue. There are too many people that want the law to change regarding mandated

helmet use. We had a chance to talk to Bob Beers who is also running for Governor and introduced the helmet bill last year. Dale and I had talked earlier to each other about who we would ask to introduce it this year. The moment was right and Dale asked Bob if he would introduce our bill again in 2007 and Bob said he would. This is really great! I have been concerned that it might be difficult to get someone to introduce the bill because it is such a controversial issue and has been introduced so many times in the past without success.

Knowing that Lorraine Hunt would be present, who is also running for Governor, I took the letter that I had written to her in October on behalf of ABATE, but I never received a response from her. Lorraine is our Lieutenant Governor and head of the Nevada Commission on Tourism. I informed Ms. Hunt in the letter that it would be printed in our ABATE newsletter and also placed on our website, which it is. The letter explained to her that Florida's first three years of their amended helmet law gener-

ated over 1.2 Billion dollars because of increased motorcycle sales, sales tax, registration fees, change of title etc. I think she was a little taken-back by me telling her that I had written her and had not received any response, I then handed her the letter. This was a prestige's evening for the candidates and she probably expected positive recognition, not the president of a political organization asking her why she didn't respond to a letter written to her and then having it handed to her. Personally I think the timing was perfect, I spent a lot of time writing that letter. The letter is well written, has some important information in it, and she needs to at least be curious enough to respond to it. Dawn Gibbons, Jim's wife is running for a seat on the senate and treated us like dear friends. To top the evening off, we sat next to John Carpenter and his wife and visited with them during the dinner.

John Ellison has me scheduled for the March NACO (Nevada Association of County Commissioners) meeting board agenda. We

will present our upcoming helmet bill to the commissioners and ask for their support of freedom of choice. This organization is made up of members from all the counties in Nevada and they are one of the most powerful organizations in the state. At this time Dale Andrus and I will be going, I have requested that Jackie Orr, Rich Weber, Connie Campbell, and Charlie Myers also attend if possible.

You should know that my personal opinion is that I don't think there should be any laws mandating helmet use. I believe that if an 18 year old is old enough to fight and die for his or her country then they are old enough to decide if and when to wear a motorcycle helmet. That's my opinion. I am realistic and the helmet law has been enforced in Nevada for about 30 years and we must be creative to get a change in this long standing law. As most of you know there have been several compromises in other states to get their helmet laws changed. Additional insurance, age restrictions, required motorcycle safety classes, the list goes on. John Ellison believes that if we put a county population stipulation on the bill that he could get it passed. What this boils down to is that counties with 1 million or 2 million population, helmet use would be required. I don't really like this approach but it does have its merits. It is always the Clark County legislators that kill the helmet bill.

Dennis Nolan, transportation chairman is adamantly opposed to changing the law. This would relieve the Clark County legislators from worrying about how it will affect their county and constituents. This really isn't any different than the present concealed weapons permit use now. You cannot enter Clark County with a concealed weapon even though your permit is recognized throughout the rest of the state. We need to chip away at this unfair helmet law, if we could change the law in most of the state I believe it would generate enough frustration from Clark County motorcyclists that they would get their helmet law amended within a few years. Ultimately we need to change the status quo. Whatever it is, we need to shake the tree and see what falls out. 30 years is too long without any progress or change.

I am very pleased to share with you that we now have the following as registered ABATE of Northern Nevada members; Todd Turville- President of the Banditos, Rich Weber, President of the Elko Motorcycle Jamboree, Tony Everts, President of the Christian Motorcyclists. This is outstanding! ABATE is neutral ground, ABATE is not a club or gang, we are a political motorcycle organization fighting for the freedoms of all Nevada motorcyclists. It reflects well on ABATE that clubs feel welcome and are interested enough in what we are doing that they are joining our efforts, we need the assistance of all motorcyclists to accomplish our goals, we look forward to your involvement. I personally want to thank you for joining ABATE and look forward to a long, positive, productive, relationship.

John Bland, President
 A.B.A.T.E. of Northern Nevada

1) NHTSA proposals increase focus on mandatory helmet laws

<http://www.ldrlongdistancerider.com/nhtsa23090.html> CALL TO ACTION: NHTSA proposals increase focus on mandatory helmet laws!By Bruce

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recently published their "Amendments to Highway Safety Program Guidelines" [Docket No. NHTSA-2005-23090], which issues a public request for comments (RFC) on six proposed amendments, including significant changes to Motorcycle Safety Guideline No. 3.

The open comment period is currently set to close on March 13, which gives motorcyclists' rights advocates a narrow but crucial window of opportunity to voice our opinion on the proposed changes. With the hope this might encourage freedom fighters everywhere to stand up and speak your mind, here is some information to help you decide on WHAT to say and HOW to say it ... See the full article at <http://www.ldrlongdistancerider.com/nhtsa23090.html>

Living on the Edge

By CJ

February is such a short month. It has come and gone quickly and we are yet one step closer to spring. The ABATE Flea Market on February 25th; at Kimberly Nursery's was a huge success. I hope we can make this activity an annual event. It not only was a great fundraiser for us, but it was a lot of fun. Thank you to everyone that participated!

On February 24th, John and I, Dale and Vicky, and Marvin and Jacque Orr, attended the Republican Party VIP Reception at the museum and the Lincoln Day Dinner afterwards. It was a great opportunity to talk with Jim and Dawn Gibbons, Bob Beers and Lorraine Hunt. Republican candidates for all the state offices were in attendance. This gave each of us some insight into their qualifications, opinions and goals. It was wonderful to know that at least two of the governor candidates, Jim Gibbons, and Bob Beers, are supporters of ABATE and our issue's.

Last month John and I had some like thoughts when writing our articles for the newsletter. I don't know how this happens, since I write my article by hand on a piece of paper in the kitchen and he types his on the computer in the other room. We read each others articles before they are e-mailed out, and then we argue over who copied who. I recall that old saying, something about when a couple spends a long time together they begin to look alike and I believe also to think alike. I'm waiting for John to start thinking about how he is going to style his hair in the morning and if his jewelry matches his clothes. This probably won't happen, but neither will I think about charging all the batteries in the shop or whether my tools are all in their proper places.

Yes, it's been a long winter and as most of you know we are still remodeling this old school we live in, which explains all the anxiety in this household. Both of our thoughts have been on how to get the living room furniture into the garage, and if we can't get to the bedroom or kitchen, because of the wet varnish on the floor, can all those tools and motorcycles somehow be used as a bed? I'm sure John didn't think to put any food in the refrigerator in his shop, just a 12-pack of Bud Light, some 9-volt batteries and cat food. John thinks we could use the motorcycles as furniture in the new living room. I think not! Anyway you will all be invited out when we are done remodeling, you may have to supply your own chair or motorcycle whichever the case may be. All this thinking reminds me of a quote by the Three Stooges, "I tried to think, but nothings happening." I certainly hope he doesn't know what I'm thinking now!

Photos from ABATE's First Annual Flea Market at Kimberly Nurseries.



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Signed _____

Datte _____

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

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Helmet Law, Etc.: For Safety's Sake, Why Not Just Ban Motorcycles Altogether?

A. BARTON HINKLE
TIMES-DISPATCH COLUMNIST
Tuesday, February 21, 2006

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Of all tyrannies, a tyranny exercised for the good of its victims may be the most oppressive. It may be better to live under robber barons than under omnipotent moral busy-bodies. The robber baron's cruelty may sometimes sleep, his cupidity may at some point be satiated; but those that torment us for our own good will torment us without end, for they do so with the approval of their own conscience. --C.S. Lewis. As this newspaper pointed out in an editorial last week, the defeat of Delegate Bill Janis' attempt to repeal the state's motorcycle-helmet law does not mean, as the more hyperventilating riders of Hondas and Harleys would have it, that Virginians are walking around in chains. A little perspective is in order. The Old Dominion is not Red China or Saudi Arabia; there's no need to stamp "REPEALED" on the Bill of Rights quite yet.

But something else is in order as well, namely a clear understanding of just what the defeat of Janis' proposal implies. Philosophically, the mandatory-helmet law is disheartening.

Let's stipulate that motorcycle helmets save lives, and that wearing a helmet is a good and smart thing to do. Let's also stipulate that helmet laws lengthen lives. In Texas, motorcycle deaths rose 31 percent the year after the state relaxed its helmet law; in Arkansas, deaths rose 21 percent. Traumatic injuries also rose and so perforce did the medical costs associated with treating them.

IT DOES NOT follow, however, that injuries from crashes involving helmetless riders raise insurance rates. Motorcyclists constitute a small fraction of the insured populace; those involved in crashes, a smaller percentage still; and those involved in crashes resulting in head trauma exacerbated by not wearing a helmet an even smaller fraction. As one of the nation's biggest insurance companies put it a few years ago: "Motorcycles account for a very small percentage of our total book of business, and the new helmet law would be unidentifiable in our private passenger loss experience."

Check Out these Websites:

www.bikernation.us
www.ldrlongdistancerider.com
www.nevadagop.org
www.thereidworld.com
www.dambikers.com (good jokes)
www.harleylovers.proboards56.com
www.CycleQuest.com

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

2006 Elko County Election Dates

May 1 First day to file declaration of candidacy
May 12 Last day to file declaration of candidacy
May 23 Last day candidate can withdraw name from ballot
July 15 Last day to register to vote by mail or at an agency
July 25 Last day to register to vote in county clerk's office
July 29 Early voting for primary election begins
Aug 11 Last day of early voting for primary
Aug 15 Primary election
Oct 7 Last day to register by mail or at an agency
Oct 17 Last day to register in the County Clerk's Office
Oct 21 Early voting begins
Oct 27 Nevada Day, no early voting
Nov 3 Last day of early voting
Nov 7 GENERAL ELECTION

<http://www.politics1.com/nv.htm>

WHO'S RUNNING FOR GOVERNOR?

[Kenny Guinn (R)* - Not Eligible to Seek Re-Election in 2006.]

Bob Beers (R) - State Sen. & Accountant

Jim Gibbons (R) - Congressman, Ex-State Assemblyman, Attorney, USAF Veteran & '94 Nominee

Lorraine Hunt (R) - Lt. Governor, Ex-Clark County Commissioner & Banker

Jim Gibson (D) - Henderson Mayor

Oscar Goodman (D) - Las Vegas Mayor & Attorney (potential candidate)

Phil Satre (D) - Gaming Executive (potential candidate)

Dina Titus (D) - State Senate Minority Leader, College Professor & Author

Classifieds:

Nothing Submitted

Doesn't Anybody Have a Motorcycle or a Trailer they want to sell??????

E-mail me, and I'll list it for you.

Continued from Page 5. Helmet Law, Etc.: For Safety's Sake, Why Not Just Ban Motorcycles Altogether?

Yet the notion that everybody saves money when motorcyclists wear helmets amounts to an article of faith among those who support the helmet law. They make an argument that goes like this: "Why should I pay higher insurance rates because some people want to engage in foolhardy behavior?" The implication of such reasoning is that one person's economic interests trump another person's right to decide what to do with his own life.

Logically extended, it would apply to a host of other behaviors. Applying the principle consistently would require banning smoking -- and perhaps bungee-jumping, contact sports, and for that matter, motorcycle-riding period, which is both unnecessary and vastly more dangerous than driving a car. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says motorcyclists are six times more likely to be injured in an accident, and 32 times more likely to die, than drivers of cars and trucks. Almost nobody needs to ride a motorcycle and, collectively, we all would be better off if nobody chose to.

For that matter, the insurance argument -- consistently applied -- would require the state to mandate that everyone eat a healthy diet and exercise regularly. Obesity ranks alongside smoking as a principal cause of preventable illness and medical expense in the U.S. (Americans already are seeing that consistency at work in the push by some activists for a "Twinkie tax" on unhealthy foods.)

AT BOTTOM, the insurance argument says people should make life choices that maximize collective financial advantage, and contains the assumption that individuals have an obligation to be economic production units for the benefit of others -- that they ought to forgo their own desires and fulfillment in order to contribute to the productivity of the hive. This seems to entail a rather pinched and flinty vision of the pursuit of happiness.

However, some who support the helmet law might not have reasoned it through to such a conclusion, and simply believe individuals should be forbidden to engage in dangerous behavior for their own good. This still suggests the need for a raft of prohibitions against kayaking, skydiving, downhill skiing, and other activities enjoyed by adrenaline junkies including riding motorcycles even with proper protective gear.

It's one thing to argue, exhort, plead, and beg riders to put on their helmets. Such attempts to persuade represent a noble concern for one's fellow man. Mandating helmets, however, represents the opposite. It amounts to a profoundly arrogant disregard for the autonomy of others -- an unwillingness to respect the choices they freely make, even though one might disapprove of them. That respect is essential to any society that values individual choice in meaningful matters. It also is essential to the idea that all persons have equal inherent worth and standing, with no one more lofty than his neighbor.

Advocates of the law might ask what right a cyclist has to take so great a risk as to ride without a hel-

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753-4723

Continued from Page 6. Helmet Law, Etc.: For Safety's Sake, Why Not Just Ban Motorcycles Altogether?

met. The answer is that the rider's life belongs to him, to risk as he wishes. Friends and family might use the bonds of affection to cajole, but strangers cannot coerce. The rider also might reply that, even if his claim to control his own destiny is not absolute, it is vastly stronger than another person's claim over him. What right does he have to ride without a helmet? Far more right than anyone else has to make him put one on.

This story can be found at: http://www.timesdispatch.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=RTD%2F2FMGArticle%2FRTD_BasicArticle&%09s=1045855935007&c=MGArticle&cid=1137834226883&path=%21editorials%21oped

Thank you, Mr. Hinkle, for allowing me to reprint this story. (Msg. from Mr. Hinkle to ABATE of Northern Nevada. "Charles Saunders, our librarian, passed along the request below. You're welcome to use the piece in any not-for-profit publication, per standard Times-Dispatch policy, which stipulates only that you make clear the authorship and original source of the work. Publication in for-profit media would have to be negotiated.

With every best wish,

ABH

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Time to Lighten Up a Little, enjoy.

OIL CHANGE (Author Unknown)

>

> Oil Change instructions for Women:

>

- > 1) Pull up to Jiffy Lube when the mileage reaches 3000 miles since the last oil change.
- > 2) Drink a cup of coffee.
- > 3) 15 minutes later, write a check and leave with a properly maintained vehicle.

>

- > Money spent:
- > Oil Change \$20.00
- > Coffee \$1.00
- > Total \$21.00

> =====

>

> Oil Change instructions for Men:

>

- > 1) Wait until Saturday, drive to auto parts store and buy a case of oil, filter, kitty litter, hand cleaner and a scented tree, write a check for \$50.00.
- > 2) Stop by 7 - 11 and buy a case of beer, write a check for \$20, drive home.
- > 3) Open a beer and drink it.
- > 4) Jack car up. Spend 30 minutes looking for jack stands.
- > 5) Find jack stands under kid's pedal car.
- > 6) In frustration, open another beer and drink it.
- > 7) Place drain pan under engine.

OIL CHANGE Continued.

- > 8) Look for 9/16 box end wrench.
- > 9) Give up and use crescent wrench.
- > 10) Unscrew drain plug.
- > 11) Drop drain plug in pan of hot oil: splash hot oil on you in process. Cuss.
- > 12) Crawl out from under car to wipe hot oil off of face and arms. Throw kitty litter on spilled oil.
- > 13) Have another beer while watching oil drain.
- >14) Spend 30 minutes looking for oil filter wrench.
- >15) Give up; crawl under car and hammer a screwdriver through oil filter and twist off.
- > 16) Crawl out from under car with dripping oil filter splashing oil everywhere from holes. Cleverly hide old oil filter among trash in trash can to avoid environmental penalties. Drink a beer.
- >17) Buddy shows up; finish case of beer with him. Decide to finish oil change tomorrow so you can go see his new garage door opener.
- > 18) Sunday: Skip church because "I gotta finish the oil change." Drag pan full of old oil out from underneath car.
- >Cleverly dump oil in hole in back yard instead of taking it back to Krageen to recycle.
- > 19) Throw kitty litter on oil spilled during step 18.
- >20) Beer? No, drank it all yesterday.
- >21) Walk to 7-11; buy beer.
- >22) Install new oil filter making sure to apply a thin coat of oil to gasket surface.
- > 23) Dump first quart of fresh oil into engine.
- >24) Remember drain plug from step 11.
- >25) Hurry to find drain plug in drain pan.
- > 26) Remember that the used oil is buried in a hole in the back yard, along with drain plug.
- > 27) Drink beer.
- > 28) Shovel out hole and sift oily mud for drain plug. Re-shovel oily dirt into hole. Steal sand from kids sandbox to cleverly cover oily patch of ground and avoid environmental penalties. Wash drain plug in lawnmower gas.
- >29) Discover that first quart of fresh oil is now on the floor. Throw kitty litter on oil spill.
- >30) Drink beer.
- >31) Crawl under car getting kitty litter into eyes. Wipe eyes with oily rag used to clean drain plug. Slip with stupid crescent wrench tightening drain plug and bang knuckles on frame.
- >32) Bang head on floorboards in reaction to step 31.
- >33) Begin cussing fit.
- > 34) Throw stupid crescent wrench.
- >35) Cuss for additional 10 minutes because wrench hit bowling trophy.
- > 36) Beer.
- >37) Clean up hands and forehead and bandage as required to stop blood flow.
- >38) Beer.
- > 39) Beer.
- > 40) Dump in five fresh quarts of oil.
- > 41) Beer.
- >42) Lower car from jack stands.
- >43) Accidentally crush remaining case of new motor oil.
- >44) Move car back to apply more kitty litter to fresh oil spilled during steps 23 - 43.
- >45) Beer.
- >46) Test drive car.
- >47) Get pulled over: arrested for driving under the influence.
- >48) Car gets impounded.
- >49) Call loving wife, make bail.
- >50) 12 hours later, get car from impound yard.
- >
- > Money spent:
 - > Parts \$50.00
 - > DUI \$2500.00
 - > Impound fee \$75.00
 - > Bail \$1500.00
 - > Beer \$40.00
- > Total - - \$4,165.00
- > But you know the job was done right!

FREEDOM ISN'T FREE ! GET INVOLVED !

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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**

Beatty Run
April 28, 29, and 30
Call the Exchange Club
(775) 553-2333

UPCOMING EVENTS

- A.B.A.T.E. Meeting March 9th, 7:00 P.M. Round Table by Raleys
(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.)
- Bike Nite is Every Non-ABATE meeting Thursday at 6:00 P.M. Everyone is Welcome.
Watch for e-mails from Connie announcing the place
- April 28th, 29th, & 30th 2006 Beatty Run
(Call the Exchange Club 775-553-2333 for Room Reservations.)
- May is Motorcycle Awareness Month
- May 13, 2006 Blessing of the Bikes
- May 26th, 27th, & 28th 2006 Run-A-Mucca Rally
- June 11th, 2006 Pediatric Brain Tumor Charity Run
- June 15, 16, 17, 18th 2006 MRF Conference, Prescott AZ
- June 16, 17, 18th 2006 Elko Motorcycle Jamboree
- July 14, 15, 16th 2006 Taylor Canyon Run
- September 1, 2, 3, and 4 Banbury's Hot Springs Hagerman, ID