

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

September 2005

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Bob Beers and Jim Gibbons were both in Elko during the Labor Day parade. Dale Andrus, Deb Bonetti, Bud Jacobson, Connie Campbell and I were present at the Convention Center during Jim Gibbons' announcement that he is running for governor. Many of our local politicians were also present. One of the primary issues that Jim Gibbons talked about during his speech was how strongly he feels about reducing government and how great Nevada is in regard to being a freedom state. Mr. Gibbons told us how people from all over the nation are coming to Nevada because it is recognized as one of last states in the union where folks can still find the out-west American dream of freedom. He made it very clear that reducing Nevada's government will be a major issue in his campaign. This made it very comfortable to introduce ourselves and ABATE to Mr. Gibbons, after all, mandatory adult helmet use is definitely a reflection of excessive government. I told Mr. Gibbons that I knew he was a motorcycle enthusiast and asked him to support helmet freedom of choice. Even though he was rushed to

catch his plane he obviously was aware of ABATE and made the connection of a political organization, and personal freedoms. We need to take advantage of every opportunity that comes up now to meet with and talk to Mr. Gibbons. I believe he would support helmet freedom of choice. It will be up to us to show him that this is an important issue and we reflect a lot of votes. I wish I could have talked to Bob Beers before or after the parade. I looked for him after, but couldn't find him. We need to stay focused and persistent with our efforts to establish relationships with the candidates that can change our laws.

In the last newsletter I wrote to AAA insurance. In that letter I told Jim Pouliot, AAA President and Chief Executive Officer how aggravated I was with their negative stance against adult helmet freedom of choice. The following is the response I received from Michael Geeser, AAA Nevada Government Relations. Mr. Geeser is the individual who submitted the AAA letter in opposition to SB 151 (helmet freedom of choice)

during the legislative hearing.

John Bland
ABATE of Northern Nevada
PO Box 1566
Elko, NV 89803

Mr. Bland,

Thank you for taking the time to write a letter to CSAA President Jim Pouliot. Your discontent and aggravation is of great concern to us. I just wanted to take the time to respond to your letter and further explain our position on the issue of repealing Nevada's mandatory motorcycle helmet law.

As a longstanding traffic safety advocate and insurance provider, AAA policies are geared toward keeping our roads as safe as possible. It has long been CSAA's position to support mandatory motorcycle helmet laws for proven traffic safety reasons. A critical source of protection, helmets save lives – as well as reduce medical costs.

During the testimony on SB

one member questioned how we arrive at our public policies. We arrive at our positions based on member feedback, careful research, and extensive deliberation amongst affiliated AAA clubs from around the country. We review many policies on an annual basis for relevance and applicability. Not everything warrants a law, but in this case we disagree. If this law were repealed, we believe traffic safety is compromised.

On the statistics cited in my letter, NHTSA was cited as a source. While the additional data you provided does indeed add context to the picture, the statistics hardly qualify as false information. They are simply the numbers provided to us by NHTSA.

So that the committee members are clear, I would be happy to provide clarification on the increase in fatalities and registrations you mentioned in Texas to Honorable Dennis Nolan, Chair, Senate Transportation and Homeland Security.

One other note, CSAA will begin offering motorcycle insurance in Nevada beginning in June.

Sincerely,
Michael Geeser
AAA Nevada
Government Relations

Message from the President Continued.

I was pleased to receive this lip service letter from Mr. Geeser. The information in this letter is very valuable to us. This gives our ABATE members insight to the mentality we are confronting. Mr. Geeser makes it very clear to me that AAA will do everything they can to make our roads safe (even if it means taking your American freedom's away). All their scientific research has concluded that if the motorcycle helmet law were repealed (were not asking to repeal it, just amend it so that it is an adult freedom) safety would be compromised. They know "dam good and well" that a lot more lives would be saved if they mandated helmets in cars but they won't go there because it will piss-off their policy holders and AAA would be out of business in a week. Obviously my letter got his attention. I can't wait to send him copies of all these newsletters expressing our aggravation and discontent with AAA Insurance and their stance against freedom of choice.

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

Labor Day Fun

By Connie Campbell

It was hard to decide where to go camping over the Labor Day holiday, after last years trip to Cave Lake where we endured the coldest overnight tent camping ever. We all vowed to go somewhere warmer this year. Well mostly the women decided we weren't going unless we went to a warmer area this year, although the trip to Cave Lake was the most memorable yet. Originally we had planned to go to CJ Strike, but as the holiday weekend grew closer our plans changed. Marvin Orr suggested we try going to Southern Idaho. He had friend in the Buhl, Hagerman area, and he thought we might enjoy Banbury's Hot Springs. Well Marvin you didn't steer us wrong.

On Friday afternoon Bill & Deb Bonetti, Bill & Diane Hartsock, Bud Jacobsen & Trudy Whetton, Marvin & Jaque Orr, Dale & Vicky Andrus and John Bland and I left Elko. It was a warm easy ride to Buhl, Id. on our motorcycles some choose to take pickups and camp trailers which created quite a caravan along the way. We arrived at Banbury's early evening and set up camp in a wonderful grassy area with lots of large shade trees. Deb's cousin Kathy and her boyfriend Kirk along with my good friend Cammie Garner from Twin Falls joined us. We had quite a group for the cocktail hours on Friday night. Vicky and I had a few too many, John B & Deb B played guitar and the rest of us joined in making up words to songs and pretending we could sing. On Saturday after a good nights sleep, some of our group rode around the area taking in the scenery and also checked out Thousand Springs, home to some large prehistoric looking sturgeon. Vicky and I slept till noon we were on vacation after all. That night we barbequed steaks and Dale & Vicky and John B attended the Twin Falls County Fair. On Sunday a ride to Sun Valley to check out the antique sales and classic car auction entertained Dale & Vicky, John & Marvin. Bud, Bill B, Kirk & Bill H, went fishing. The women- Deb, Diane, Kathy, Trudy, Cammie, Jaque and I on the other hand stayed in camp. We had a great time talking, drinking bloody mary's and beer, and preparing a fantastic dutch oven Mexican dinner. Trudy's enchiladas are the best. We sat around the campfire that night and my friend Cammie had asked her brother Doug Kennison, who lives nearby, to come and entertain us with his singing and guitar playing. What a treat!

All in all we had a great weekend and it was warm all the time. We had a swimming pool and natural hot baths, showers and bathrooms. What more could we ask for. For those of you that miss out, we have reserved a large area at Miracle Hot Spring for Labor Day weekend 2006. Hope to see you all there next year!

Jim Gibbons Enters Governor's Race

Republican congressman, Jim Gibbons announces his candidacy for Governor.

(Bud found this article in Easyriders October 2005 Issue. Enjoy)

“IT’S YOUR CHOICE – NOT THEIRS

Recently, in New Mexico and California, a few misguided legislators attempted to sneak amendments into legislation that would have required motorcyclists to become organ donors if we’re killed while riding because of our chosen mode of transportation. Also jumping on the hysteria bandwagon was the news media.

Columnist Brian Dickerson of the *Detroit Free Press* called for motorcyclists to be de-facto organ donors and even suggested that injured motorcyclists “not” be given medical treatment at all. Adding insult to injury, *Chicago Sun-Times* columnist Neil Steinberg, characterized riders as organ donors in a column head-lined “Hop on a motorcycle, fill out your donor card.”

For anyone to even remotely suggest tomfoolery like this is despicable and has no place in any type of biker legislation whatsoever. If a “freedom loving motorcyclists” wants to be a voluntary organ donor, that’s his/her own personal choice and should never, ever, be exploited or mandated by any state or federal law. My thanks to the MRF Reports for contributing to the above. Twiggy”

LABOR DAY BANBURY'S RUN 2005



Bill and Kathy Arguing, as Usual



Bud and Trudy Watchin' the Dutch Oven



The Hartsock Girls



Connie, Cammie, and Musician Doug

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 (_____) _____

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 _____

Datte _____

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

Office Use Only

Date _____ Rcvd\$ _____ By _____

River Street Summerfest

Hosted by Ruby Mountain Resource Center and Friends
Featuring Music, Art, and Family Entertainment

September 17, 2005

ABATE and Christmas for Kids

Booths will set up at 9:00 A.M.

Live Music all Day Long

Vendors from 9:00 to 5:00 P.M.

BBQ Dinner and Street Dance
from 6:00 to 8:00

**Please volunteer some time in
the ABATE and Christmas for Kids Booths**

Motorcycles for Sale:

1987 Honda Magna, VF 700 C 4
Cylinder Shaft Drive, Water
Cooled, Excellent Runner –
Great at picking up Harley Parts
and dodging tarantulas. Call
Connie
738-3414 Days; 744-4570 Eve-
nings.

1973 Harley Trike, Runs and
Drives, Needs TLC. Clean Ne-
vada Title
Call Bill at 738-6015.

Motorcycle Trailer and Hitch.
Contact Bill and Diane Hartsock
\$650.00 (Make Offer) 777-2260

FYI – ABATE of Northern Nevada is in
the process of applying to MRF for the
privilege of hosting the 2007 Best of the
West Conference here in Elko. We'll
keep you posted.



Our Meeting with Dawn Gibbons

**From the United Four Wheelers Association
Mickey Goodweiler, President**

July 28, 2005

To: ABATE of No. Nevada

Nevada United Four Wheelers Association thanks you for your support of the Jar-
bidge Event held over the Fourth of July Weekend. Thanks to you and our other sup-
porters NUFWA had the opportunity to spread our message of ethical four wheeling,
balanced land stewardship, and supported the communities of Elko County in cele-
brating the public's right to recreate on public land. We are proud of our participa-
tion in this successful event. However, we know that we could not accomplish this on
our own. Our association relies on the collaboration and support of organizations
like yours.

Thank you,
Mickey Goodweiler (Thanks again for help.)

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

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

**ZZ Top is Playing at Cactus Pete's
in Jackpot on October 9th!!!!**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- A.B.A.T.E. Meeting October 13, 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 Thursday at 6:00 P.M. Please Check your e-mail for place. Everyone is Welcome.
- River Street Summerfest Saturday September 17, 2005.
- Middlegate Run September 16, 17, and 18.



**Christmas for Kids, Inc.
New Officers
Vicky Andrus, Pres.
Phil Ackerly, VP
Danielle Kohler, Sec/Treas.**

