

# ABATE of Florida - Southwest Chapter

MAY 2010  
Volume XLIV, Issue XXXX



American Bikers Aimed Towards Education

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Presidents Message
- Membership Report
- Safety Report
- Renewals
- Legislative Report
- Minutes
- Calendar
- Swampfest

*Board &  
Trustees  
Thank You  
For Your  
Service  
To the  
Southwest  
Chapter*



*Congratulations to the  
nominees for  
Upcoming Elections  
HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD!*

**JUNE 21ST - RIDE TO WORK DAY**

**CHAPTER ELECTIONS ■ NEXT CHAPTER MEETING JUNE 27TH**



**ABATE of Florida, Inc.**  
**Southwest Chapter**

PO BOX 60745 • Fort Myers, FL 33906  
www.Southwest.ABATEFlorida.com

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (Include Area Code)

May we use your phone number for our phone tree?      YES    NO

Are you a registered Voter?      YES    NO

Please Lister your voting districts from your Voter Registration Card:

\_\_\_\_\_ FL House      \_\_\_\_\_ FL Senate      \_\_\_\_\_ US Congress

Name of Chapter you wish to join \_\_\_\_\_

Select ONE of the following:

\_\_\_\_ New/Renewal - Annual Membership Due \$20.00

\_\_\_\_ Lifetime Membership \$ 150.00

\_\_\_\_ Transfer Membership to: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Change of Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsored by Chapter Member : \_\_\_\_\_

**CHAPTER USE**

Dues Paid by  Cash       Check       Money Order

Mailed Date: Membership Card \_\_\_\_\_

Copy of By Laws \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Expiration \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships are open to anyone 18 years of age or older. All members receive with their paid membership a membership card, our bi-monthly Masterlink magazine, Chapter Newsletter, Chapter voting privileges and personal involvement in Statewide legislative actions and their from to ride

# President's Report

May 2010

*From the desk of . . .*

*The Chief*

Hello Everyone,

As always, I hope this newsletter finds all in good health and spirits.

Many of our members made themselves available for Swampfest at the Shell Factory this past weekend. It was a terrific turn out; the weather was fantastic although a bit hot. Special thanks to Ms. Donna Ellis from the Shell Factory, she is their top gal in charge of fun stuff. She does a fabulous job. Thanks also to Wayne Cerra, current nominee for chapter president, Wayne pulled this event together like a pro. I am very pleased with his performance and I can tell he has the best interest of this chapter in mind. Then we had Birdie, Smokey, Richie, Kelly, Ray Biffle, Gator, Eileen, CJ, Pat and others all step up and work the event in one way or another thanks so much to all of you your efforts are greatly appreciated. We certainly don't want to forget my buddy Trick Rick for his efforts and putting on a great bike show. Thanks so much for your support folks, we couldn't do this without you guys.

We had our guest speaker Ms. Sharon Merchant running for Dave Aronberg's old senate seat. She offered to possibly sponsor a stiffer penalties bill in the future. We should keep our eye on that lady as she is the real deal; she is a regular one of us and best of all she is biker friendly.

State board elections will be at the June state meeting up in Pensacola in a few weeks. We will be traveling there to delegate the meeting and hopefully come home as the new president of ABATE of Florida Inc. I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support in my run for the state office and I was especially

grateful at Sunday's meeting when it was called for a vote and I received 100% of the vote in the room that truly was the best vote of confidence anyone could ever hope for. It has been brought to my attention that this is happening at chapter meetings all across the state, it is also my understanding that myself and Frenchie Mooreland have around 18 to 20 chapters out of the possible 32 statewide, We are getting a bit anxious its time to move our MRO into the 21st century we are ready to go "LETS ROLL".

There seems to be a pretty good board shaping up for the Southwest chapter I'm glad so many have stepped up to fill voids in the board, we have many talented people and I'm so happy to see so much interest you guys are great.

We had a less than fruitful legislative session with absolutely nothing accomplished, Here's hoping things are much better next session.

In closing I just would like to share.... It has been many years for me in ABATE and I am still as excited about it today as I was so many years ago, I'm very excited about the state elections and while thinking about different aspects of working at the state level I thought back over the years at the chapter level and I have to say the real thing that I was good at was choosing to surround myself with high quality people and they never ever let me down actually its quite the contrary they never failed to make me look good and it was never me it was always you guys, and I just wanted to let you all know anyone who has ever served with me it was not only my pleasure I have been honored to work with all of you over the years. Thanks to you all old and new and thanks for your determination and dedication to ABATE of Florida Inc. and the outstanding Southwest Chapter, I personally appreciate all of your effort, thanks again.

Ride Safe,  
Frankie

## **Membership Report:**

**MAY 2010**

I regret to inform our members that we are currently operating without a membership trustee as our long time volunteer, Trudy, has had to step away for personal reasons related to her health. She will be sorely missed and I know that first hand. Who do you think did membership this month.....

Anyway, yours truly and it was my pleasure! Trudy has been a tremendous asset to this chapter for many years and I am grateful for all of her efforts above and beyond membership.

We had a fabulous month for membership. As you can see, many new members have signed on, a few renewals and a couple transfers. So, all in all, it was a terrific month. Way to go Trudy! Go out with a bang....we love you and thanks for all you do for the Southwest Chapter.

**New Members :** Sharon Merchant, Daniel Curry, John Dahlgren, James Taylor, Bob Stubbins, Shane Hanley, Stoney Stonebraker, John Adams, Lisa Monforto, Todd Burns, Eddie and Eunice Kibblin, Sarah VanNostrand, Allen Jon Wolf, Renny Severance.

**Renewals:** Ernie Maroon, Robb and Trudy Rabell, George Riden

**Transfers:** George Riden, Mike Sterling.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frankie Kennedy  
Southwest Chapter President  
Nominee for State President  
ABATE of Florida Inc.  
Ride safe,  
Frankie

If you are not receiving your newsletter or Masterlink, PLEASE CONTACT me to make sure your information is correct. Your membership expires on the last day of your Anniversary month. Delinquent renewals must be received no later than the Chapter meeting of the month following your anniversary date in order to maintain renewal status otherwise you will be enrolled as a new member.

Anyone who would like to recycle his or her first year pins in order to save the Chapter money

PLEASE turn your pins in to Membership.

### **SOUTHWEST CHAPTER LIFE MEMBERS**

Darrell Barnett  
Denee Bartels  
Scott Blink  
Chet Butz  
James Burkholder  
Nora Burkholder  
Don Campbell  
Frances Cazes  
Jonathan Conant  
Terry Covington  
Audrey Cran  
*Maggie Cran*  
Rick Cran  
Rob Cran  
Robert "Cruz" Crusan  
*Ginny D'Asti*  
Biffle Davis  
Mary Dicenzo-Porter  
Al Diagiaco  
Frank Disomma  
Cindy Doak  
Randy Eck  
Brian Galvin  
Sonny Gartrell

Lynnda Gray  
Bob Hall  
Harry Hoover  
George Huttman  
Susan "Red" Huttman  
Dan Jackson  
Frankie Kennedy  
*John Kennedy*  
Ed LaCombe  
"KD" Marlowe  
*Russell May*  
*Rev.Rea Means*  
Don Meredith Jr.  
Jo Ann Miller  
Kenneth Miller  
*Jim Mozeleski*  
Terry Padilla  
Bob Penn  
Asuncion Peppers  
Richard Peppers  
Kathleen Provenzano  
Rev. Thomas Provenzano  
Bill Robinson  
Janet Rolfe  
Tabitha Rossi  
Roland Salsberry  
Jencye Schmitt  
Jerry Schmitt  
Bruce Scheiner  
Elsie Seif  
Robert Simon  
Kelly Smith  
Richard Stergulz  
Sandy Stergulz  
Grandpa Stewart  
Lynda Stewart  
Scott Turner  
Ruth Vorys  
Teresa Webster  
D. Payton Wells  
Michael Wieland  
Jama Wyatt  
Steve Wyatt

ABATE of Florida, Inc.  
**Southwest Chapter**  
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**HELP SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL MRO\***

\*MOTORCYCLE RIGHTS ORGANIZATION

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# ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. MISSION STATEMENT

## WHO WE ARE

We are a non-profit organization of motorcycle enthusiasts from all walks of life. We lobby and educate the government and the general public to promote motorcycling in a safe and positive image. We endeavor to enlist the cooperation and participation of all organizations and individuals that share a similar interest in preserving our American tradition of FREEDOM. We promote motorcycle safety, training, & political awareness. We ARE NOT A CLUB OR A GANG. We fund our work through toy runs, poker runs, campouts, and other motorcycle activities. We are your neighbors & friends who work, pay taxes, and get involved with our community. We serve and support our country and believe in freedom. We use all legal means to protect our rights without infringing on the rights of others.

## OUR GOALS

- To become a powerful and viable political force in legislative matters concerning the motorcyclist.
- To promote the safe riding habits without infringing on individual freedoms.
- To motivate the bikers to write letters to their legislators before, during, and after the legislative session.
- To furnish our members with a newsletter to keep all bikers informed in regards to upcoming legislation.

## Disclaimer:

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of ABATE of Florida, Inc. and or the Southwest Chapter. This publication allows members to express their own beliefs and opinions. ABATE of Florida, Inc. and the Southwest Chapter accept no responsibility for the comments, opinions or views contained in this newsletter.

Please direct any correspondence in reference to this publication to:

Frank M. Kennedy Sr.  
(cell) 239 849 9065  
(fax) 239 772 3320

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ABATE of Florida, Inc.

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ABATE of Florida, Inc. and the Southwest Chapter do not condone

# Southwest Chapter Meeting Schedule

June 27th, 2010  
@ 10 a.m. at  
Victory Lane Café  
Located at  
4150 Hancock Bridge Pkwy.,  
North Fort Myers, FL 33903  
239.995.0340



PRESENTLY, MEMBER MATERIAL DEADLINE IS THE WEDNESDAY BEFORE EACH CHAPTER MEETING FOR BOARD APPROVAL FOR SUBMISSIONS  
NEW ADVERTISERS OR AD CHANGES MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH

## IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT

SOUTHWEST CHAPTER MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
ISSUE DATE: JUNE 2010  
PUBLISHED MONTHLY  
BY  
ABATE of Florida, Inc.  
Southwest Chapter  
PO Box 60745  
Fort Myers, FL 33906

# ABATE of Florida, Inc.



## presents Leadership Seminars

Saturday, July 10, 2010

## and President's Meeting

Sunday, July 11, 2010

At the Clarion Hotel Convention Center  
350 E. International Speedway Blvd. (US92) Deland, FL 32724-2426  
For Reservations Call: (386) 738-5200 • Special Rates for ABATE

These Leadership Seminars are for ALL CHAPTER OFFICERS.  
Each seminar will be presented by the State Board Member based on his or her respective office.  
These seminars will offer a good overview of the duties and responsibilities of a Chapter Officer  
And will give attendees a chance to get answers to their questions on an individual basis.

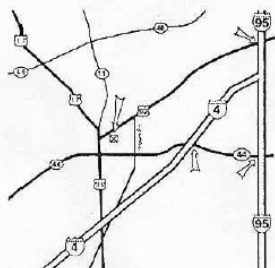
### SATURDAY, JULY 10, 2010

TIME	ROOM A	ROOM B	ROOM C
8:00 - 9:00	Treasury	Products	Legislative
9:00 - 10:00	Treasury	Delegates	Legislative
10:00 - 11:00	Treasury	Sgt-At-Arms	Newsletter
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00	Safety	Secretary/Insurance	PR/Communications
2:00 - 3:00	Membership	Secretary/Insurance	PR/Web

### SUNDAY, JULY 11, 2010

#### 9am - 12 Noon Presidents/Vice Presidents Meeting

For further information contact: ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. State Office (386) 943-9610  
DONATIONS TO ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. ARE NOT DEDUCTIBLE FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES  
ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. DOES NOT CONDONE DRINKING



**Directions:** Conveniently located near the junction of 17 and 92 (International Speedway Blvd.). From I-4, exit Highway 44 and go west. Turn right onto Kepler Rd, proceed to next light and turn left onto 92 (International Speedway Blvd.). The hotel is 1 mile on the left. From I-95, exit Highway 92 and go west 15 miles into Deland. The hotel is on the left.

# Safety ■ Safety ■ Safety ■ Safety



## **QUICK TIPS: The Importance of Riding Unimpaired by Alcohol or Other Drugs**

### **Theory: Alcohol And Motorcycles Are Incompatible**

- At a BAC\* of 0.01 to 0.04%, judgment begins to lessen, the drinker is less critical of their own actions, reaction time is slowed, and indications of mental relaxation may appear.
- At a BAC of 0.05 to 0.07%, judgment is not sound, thinking and reasoning powers are not clear, and the ability to perform complex skills is lessened.
- At a BAC of 0.08% or above, judgment and reasoning powers are severely hampered, and the individual cannot complete common simple tasks without error.

### **Proof: Statistics From Recent Studies** (by NHTSA, Florida, Kentucky, and Australia)

- Having any alcohol in one's body increases the chance of crashing by five times.
- Having a BAC greater than 0.05% increases the risk of crashing about forty-fold.
- 46 percent of all motorcyclists killed in crashes were using alcohol.
- One fourth of all fatal alcohol-related motorcycle crashes involve motorcyclists running off the road, overturning, or falling from the motorcycle rather than striking another object.

### **Explanation: Alcohol Affects Your Ability To "SEE"**

SEE<sub>sm</sub> is the acronym for MSF's strategy to help motorcycle riders maintain a safety margin as well as remain ready and able to respond properly to traffic situations. SEE stands for:

- **Search** for hazards that might lead to trouble.
- **Evaluate** how the hazards might interact to create risk; prioritize multiple hazards to deal with one at a time.
- **Execute** an action to maintain a margin of safety.

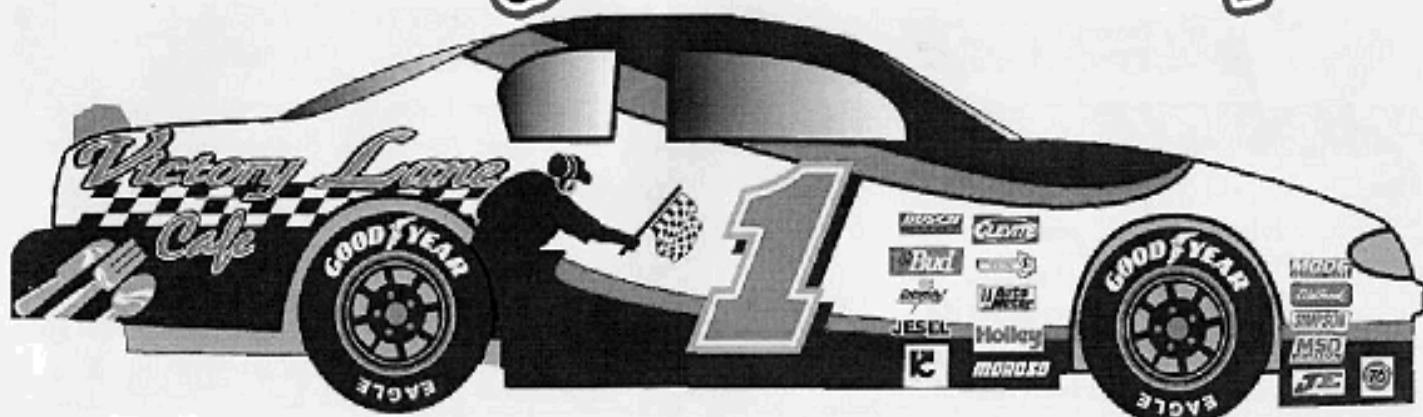
Alcohol affects these three human elements of safe motorcycle operation by impairing your vision (**Search**), judgment/decision-making ability (**Evaluate**), and coordination/reaction time (**Execute**).

### **Recommendation: Plan Ahead**

- Riders should never mix alcohol with riding. Even low, legal limits of BAC increase your risk while riding a motorcycle.
- Riders who are away from home and decide to drink should either (1) wait until their BAC has returned to zero before riding, even if it means staying overnight, or (2) leave the motorcycle in a secure location and find alternate transportation home.

\*BAC = Blood Alcohol Concentration [www.msf-usa.org](http://www.msf-usa.org) 9/06

# Victory Lane Cafe'



Victory Lane Cafe' 4150 Hancock Bridge Parkway N. Fort Myers 33903  
995-0340

## Wednesday Night Bike Nite Specials:

### Bucket Specials

.35 Wings

.35 Clams

CAR SHOWS  
TUES NITE  
CRUISE IN

FRIDAY NITE  
ALL YOU CAN EAT  
FISH

Supported by Abate of Florida, Inc., Southwest Chapter

**HOME OF THE SOUTHWEST CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETING**

**JOIN US FOR SOUTHWEST CHAPTER**

**BIKE NITE**

**EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT 5 - 10 PM**

## Safety ■ Safety

Hey Y'all,

Greetings from the Great Sandy South,! Motor cycle awareness month was a great success.

We taught a msap class to Brothers of the Third Wheel, Stoney Stonebraker, President. At our last Southwest Chapter meeting Stoney received his instructor patch.

We will be teaching at Mariner high school in June for their summer school drivers education classes. If I have my way I'm gonna teach in all the schools in Lee county. I'm working on it.

Can't wait until elections and be sure to attend the leadership seminars in Deland, flyer on page 7 of our newsletter.

God speed on CJ's recovery.

Watch out for motorcycles!

Practice what we teach!

Nuthin' but Love,

Bridie Clark  
Safety Director

## UPCOMING RENEWALS

### JUNE

LYNN ASSENZIO  
THERESA BAKER  
MIKE BRETSNYDER  
BRETT BUSH  
JANET FUHR  
ED KIRCHNER  
ALAN KONIKOW

### JULY

WILLIAM BARNES  
RON BERG  
LIZ VAN HEMME  
BRUCE INMAN  
DEBA KNOX  
TODD PETERSON  
JAMES ROSSER III  
JOHN SPINELLA

### AUGUST

LOIS CRUSAN  
CHRIS JOHNSON  
CHRISTINA MAROON  
JESSICA QUAKENBUSH  
BILL STAM  
RACHEL WOOD

# WATCH FOR MOTORCYCLES



Southwest Chapter ABATE of Florida  
[www.Southwest.ABATEFlorida.com](http://www.Southwest.ABATEFlorida.com)



Dear Fellow ABATE Members,

This Life:

It's Only the Beginning of our Existence!

Both of us "work" in local hospitals. Kathy is a Medical Social Worker Case Manager and Tom is a Volunteer Chaplain. We both spend time with patients who are dying. Many indicate that they have lost hope because they wonder what happened to the time they've spent here on earth... it seems liked it has just slipped away. And, it seems as if their life will now come to an end without fulfilling all their visions, hopes, and dreams.

Now, you may not be dying at this moment. But, there will almost certainly come a time you will question, "What have I done with this life? It's almost over."

The good news is that this life is only the beginning of our existence! And, it is good news if we have accepted God into our lives and hearts through His Son, Jesus Christ. Believers have many things to look forward to.

There will come a time in which all believers who are still alive on this earth will be taken away from this earth, to avoid being caught up in the Great Tribulation. This will be a period of seven years in which there will be a deceptive peace and then a great war. It will be the worst time this world and

its inhabitants have ever experienced. Israel will be attacked by great armies, led by the anti-Christ. Just when all seems lost, the believers and the angels of Heaven will be placed in a great army of the Lord. They will return to the earth with Christ. Christ Jesus will lead the saints and angels on a great white horse and defeat the enemies of Israel. The believers will reign with Christ for a thousand years upon the earth. Believers will also be part of a new Heaven and a New Earth. In addition, believers will attend a great wedding feast, where Jesus will take His Church as a bride. Can you image, God with all His resources, what kind of feast He will give His Son?!!!! The believers will all be seated at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. Another thing believers have to look forward to are our new perfect bodies for eternity. No more diseases! No more pain and suffering! No more tears...

This life has become a test due to the difficulties and trials we all face. The Scriptures tell us that the devil roams about the earth, seeking whomever he can devour. However, if we put vision, hopes, and dreams into eternity, by accepting Jesus into our hearts, then we can allow our test to become a testimony of what God has done! Jesus said, "I have come to give you life, and give it, more abundantly."

Please pray with us... *My dear God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob... I come before You as a sinner and ask forgiveness of my sin. I repent of those sins and ask that you help me through any temptations so as not to commit them again. I believe that your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, paid for those sins on the cross and I receive Him into my heart as Lord and Savior. I believe that Jesus died for me, He was buried for me, He rose for me, and He is coming back for me. I open the door of my life to You. In the name of Jesus... Amen.*

If you have prayed this for the first time, will you please let us know? Give us a call or email us to share your experience.

Blessings,

*Tom and, Kathy*

Pastor Tom

(Estero River ABATE Life Member and Southwest Chapter Chaplain) and

Kathy (SW ABATE Life Member)-

[www.messiahsmessengers.org](http://www.messiahsmessengers.org) or

[tprovenz@comcast.net](mailto:tprovenz@comcast.net) 239-267-8641



With the permission of the Author, Greg Zaffke II

## **BLACK NAIL BRIGADE**

Respectfully, Barbara L. Bardell, Assistant Editor

Please visit the website [blacknailbrigade.org](http://blacknailbrigade.org) and/or the facebook site

No doubt, rider training should be implemented more and have higher requirements just as driver's education should. But to allude and emphasize that rider deaths are simply due to more inexperienced riders and not address the BIGGER problem of driver responsibility and accountability is dead wrong. ~ Greg Zaffke II



ABATE Of Florida, Inc.  
Estero River Chapter Proudly Presents



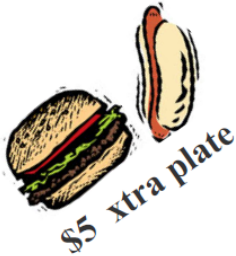
# Our 8th Annual

# RED WHITE & BLUE BASH

## June 27th 2010

Our way if celebrating the incoming and outgoing Board.  
This Bash is a Blast!!!

Registration after meeting at  
San Carlos Country Club  
Last Stop San Carlos Country Club  
19137 S Tamiami Trail  
Ft Myers FL 33908-4707  
**239-267-0500**



If you can bring a dish to share please call Pam  
or Tammy

### Food ~ Fun ~ Music 50/50 ~ Door Prizes

#### Membership and Safety information available

FIRST BIKE OUT  
11:30 AM or  
Following Meeting  
LAST BIKE OUT  
12PM



LAST BIKE IN 5PM  
  
Event Ends  
at 6 PM

For more information call Pam Cooke (239) 910-2673 Tammy 239-289-2647

Donations made to ABATE of Florida, Inc. and Estero River Chapter are not deductible for Federal Income Tax Purposes  
ABATE of Florida, Inc. and Estero River Chapter do not condone drinking and Riding/Driving

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT June 2010

Good Morning Freedom Fighters:

This month ABATE of Florida, Inc. will be holding their state-wide elections. The one race that has captured everyone's attention is that for State President.

Two dynamic leaders will be running against each other, both with proven track records.

James 'Doc' Reichenbach, the incumbent, was first elected President of ABATE of Florida, Inc. over 20 years ago. He took on a tough job and turned this organization around from what it was 20 years ago, to what it is today. His list of accomplishments speaks for its self. His record speaks very clearly about who he is and what he is all about, particularly his dedication, commitment and perseverance.

Doc has served ABATE of Florida with honor and distinction over these many years, and his leadership is recognized both here at home and nationally.

Frank Kennedy, who is the current president of the Southwest Chapter, was first elected to office over 10 years ago. Since that time he has devoted both his talents and energy to serve the Southwest Chapter, his community and ABATE of Florida, Inc. And like Doc, he too has an impressive list of accomplishments.

Frankie is well respected by his peers, the community, and its leadership, both at local and state levels. He is also a staunch advocate of motorcycle safety.

His running mate, Frenchie Mooreland, whom I've known for many, many years, is also a dynamic leader in his own respect, also with an impressive track record of service to his home chapter and to ABATE of Florida, Inc.

Traditionally, a seated incumbent is very difficult to challenge no matter what type of election it is. However, Frankie and Frenchie are up to the challenge. They have taken their campaign and their message to the chapters, and as a result have garnished a considerable amount of support.

In my humble opinion, Frank Kennedy has been a tremendous asset and a breath of fresh air to this chapter. Both Frankie and Frenchie are experienced and capable leaders. I believe it is time for a change. I believe we need a "breath of fresh air" at ABATE of Florida's top level.

### 'TEDDYBEAR'

June also celebrates "Ride-to-Work Day," sponsored by the MCC (Motorcyclists Confederation of Canada) [www.motorcycling.ca](http://www.motorcycling.ca).

Show that you are part of the motorcycling community on June 21, 2010, and be on your motorcycle or scooter!

Ride your motorcycle or scooter to demonstrate:

1. The number of motorcyclists to the general public and to politicians.

2. That motorcyclists are from all occupations and all walks of life.
3. That motorcycles can reduce traffic and parking congestion in large cities.
4. That motorcycles are part of the solution to reducing fuel consumption, and reducing greenhouse gases.
5. That motorcycles are for transportation as well as recreation.
6. That motorcycling is a social good.

MCC is an official supporter of Ride-to-Work Day and once again sponsor across Canada, International Ride-to-Work Day (RTW), held annually on the third Monday of June. RTW focuses attention on the benefits inherent on using a motorcycle or scooter as transportation – less impact on the infrastructure; less parking space; less fuel used, fewer greenhouse gas emissions and MORE FUN!

Ride to work! Take a picture...tell them your story...you could win a T-Shirt, a jacket, or more! Go to "Photo Contest" for more details.

### SPREAD THE WORD!

Details on the organization and its history can be found at [www.ridetowork.org](http://www.ridetowork.org).

### 'TEDDYBEAR'

From ABATE of Florida, Inc.

Here are the final details on motorcycle related bills we've been tracking throughout the 2010 legislative session.

**CS/HB 41 Use of an Electronic Wireless Communications Device While Driving** Prohibits operation of moving motor vehicle while reading, manually writing or typing, or sending message on electronic wireless communications device; provides exceptions & penalties.

[Last Event: Friday, April 30, 2010 - Died in Finance & Tax Council](#)

**HB 71 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles** Decreases fees & charges for reinstatement of driver license, certificates of title, registration of motor vehicle, license plates, validation decals, & mobile home stickers, initial registration application for certain vehicles, driver's license examinations, services & documents, driver's licenses, return of license suspended, & DUI program enrollment; removes fee & service charge for publication & delivery of notice given by certain licensed dealers, lists of motor vehicle & vessel records, & hearing on or review of certain actions; decreases annual license taxes for operation of certain vehicles.

[Last Event: Friday, April 30, 2010 - Died in Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Committee](#)

HB 137 **Motor Vehicles** Revises penalties for unlawful operation of soundmaking device in motor vehicle; provides that such operation is moving violation which includes assessment of points against driver's license; provides increased penalties for repeat violations within certain time period.

**Last Event:** Friday, April 30, 2010 - [Died in Roads, Bridges & Ports Policy Committee](#)

HB 247 **Driving or Boating Under the Influence** Authorizes law enforcement officer to arrest person without warrant when there is probable cause to believe person has committed any of specified driving or boating under influence violations.

**Last Event:** February 03, 2010 – [Withdrawn prior to introduction.](#)

CS/HB 297 **Vehicle Crashes Involving Death** Requires that defendant arrested for leaving scene of crash involving death must be held in custody until brought before judge for admittance to bail.

**Last Event:** Friday, April 30, 2010 - [Died in Criminal & Civil Justice Policy Council](#)

SB 298 **Motor Vehicles/Sound making Devices** Revises penalties for unlawful operation of a sound making device in a motor vehicle. Provides that such operation is a moving violation, which includes the assessment of points against the driver's license. Provides increased penalties for repeat violations within a certain time period.

**Last Event:** Friday, April 30, 2010 - 04/30/10 S [Died in Committee on Transportation](#)

SB 324 **Motor Vehicle Operators/Text Messaging** Prohibits a person from writing or sending a text message on an electronic communications device while operating a motor vehicle. Provides for enforcement. Provides exceptions. Provides penalties.

**Last Event:** Friday, April 30, 2010 - 04/30/10 S [Died in Committee on Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities](#)

SB 328 **State Uniform Traffic Control/ Texting Prohibited** Prohibits the use of an electronic communication device to send or receive text-based communications while operating a motor vehicle. Defines the term "text-based communication." Provides exceptions

and for enforcement.

**Last Event:** Friday, April 30, 2010 - 04/30/10 S [Died in Committee on Transportation](#)

SB 374 **State Uniform Traffic Control/**

**Prohibits Texting** Prohibits the use of electronic communication devices to send or receive text-based communications while operating a motor vehicle. Provides exceptions. Provides a penalty.

**Last Event:** Friday, April 30, 2010 - 04/30/10 S [Died in Committee on Transportation](#)

**SB482 Highway Safety Act [CPSC]:** Provides legislative intent relating to road rage and aggressive careless driving. Requires an operator of a motor vehicle to yield the left lane when being overtaken on a multilane highway. Revises the number of specified acts necessary to qualify as an aggressive careless driver. Provides that a second or subsequent infraction as said driver requires attendance at a mandatory hearing, etc.

**LAST EVENT:** Friday, April 30, 2010 - [Died in Messages](#)

**HB 875 Traffic Offenses:** Provides criminal penalties for person who commits moving violation that causes serious bodily injury to, or causes or contributes to death of, person operating or riding in motor vehicle or operating or riding on motorcycle; requires that person pay specified fine, serve minimum period of incarceration, & attend driver improvement course; requires court to revoke person's driver's license for specified period; provides that act does not prohibit person from being charged with, convicted of, or punished for any other violation of law.

**Last Event:** Friday, April 30, 2010 - [Died in Public Safety & Domestic Security Policy Committee](#)

**HB1029 Motor Vehicle Crashes:** Requires driver of vehicle involved in crash that results in serious bodily injury to stop & remain at scene until he or she has fulfilled specified requirements; directs court to order restitution; revises mandatory minimum term of imprisonment for person who was driving under influence & fails to stop & fulfill such requirements at scene of crash that results in death of any person; provides mandatory penalties for fail-

ing to stop & fulfill such requirements at scene of crash that results in injury, serious bodily injury, or death of any person; provides that person who commits such violation may be required to participation in victim impact panel session; provides for period of license revocation.

*Last Event: Friday, April 30, 2010 - Died in Criminal & Civil Justice Appropriations Committee*

**SB 210 Leaving the Scene/Crash/Death or Personal Injuries [CPSC]:** Requires a driver of any vehicle involved in a crash that results in serious bodily injury to any person to immediately stop the vehicle at the scene of the crash, etc.

*Last Event: Friday, April 30, 2010 - 04/30/10 S Died in Committee on Transportation*

**CS/HB 285 Parental Authority:** Provides that motorsport liability release signed by minor is valid if release is also signed by minor's parent or guardian; authorizes natural guardians to waive & release, in advance, any claim or cause of action that would accrue to any of their minor children to same extent that any adult may do so on his or her own behalf; provides that such waiver & release shall not relieve party of liability for any acts of intentional misconduct committed against minor child; provides that such waiver & release shall not relieve party of liability for gross negligence against minor child; specifies circumstances under which employer, principal, corporation, or other legal entity may be liable for injuries sustained by minor child by conduct of employee or agent.

*Last Event: Monday April 19, 2010 – Laid on Table, refer to CS/SB 244*

**SB 1578 Parental Authority:** Provides that a motorsport liability release signed by a minor is valid if the release is also signed by the minor's parent or guardian. Authorizes natural guardians to waive and release, in advance, any claim or cause of action that would accrue to any of their minor children to the same extent that any adult may do so on his or her own behalf, etc.

*LAST EVENT: Friday, April 30, 2010 - 04/30/10 S Died in Committee on Judiciary, companion bill(s) passed, see CS/SB 2440*

## **Update on Stiffer Penalties Bill SB 1918:**

I choose to wait until after the legislative session was over in order to give a report on SB 1918, the "Stiffer Penalties" Bill.

On Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup>, it was placed on the Special Order Calendar and on the 23<sup>rd</sup> it was heard on the Senate floor. From the 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup>, it was heard several times on the floor, and each time it came up against heavy opposition and had nine different amendments that were attempted to be attached to it.

One amendment by Sen. Steve Oelrich, a Republican from District 14, who's District consists of Alachua, Bradford, Gilchrist, Union, and parts of Columbia, Levy, Marion, and Putnam counties, stated that the penalties will ONLY apply only if the motorcyclist is wearing a helmet. If you hit and killed a motorcyclist without a helmet the fines and jail time did NOT apply.

There was also talk that if the bill was successful, an amendment would be added that would REQUIRE all motorcyclists to wear helmets again. It was soon apparent that if the bill was to be passed, the opposition would require some type of helmet amendment.

Therefore our options were: 1. pass a very weak bill that lost all the teeth; 2. a strong bill that would require helmets to be worn; or 3. let the bill die and try again next year.

Since a very weak bill was worthless and helmets were totally unacceptable, the decision was made to let the bill die and try again next year.

Darrin "Scribe" Brooks

## **Federal Motorcycle Road Survey**

I think we all should take this survey and pass it on to those who ride. It is about road conditions and how it affects us as motorcyclist. It is a short survey.

The Motorcyclist Advisory Council (MAC) to the Federal Highway Administration has made recommendations to U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood and his predecessors on various topics, including items for the federal highway appropriations bill and encouraging the use of motorcycles as a form of congestion relief. Of special significance was

the creation and approval of the yearly Motorcyclist Road Conditions Survey.

The purpose of the survey is to better communicate to the MAC, road construction engineers, and transportation safety officials the specific needs of motorcyclists that should be considered when developing new roadways or altering existing routes.

*You can access the survey at <http://tinyurl.com/ykbqsr6>*

### **Motorcycle Fatalities Decrease**

The Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) released a report today on motorcycle fatalities. The report claims that motorcycle fatalities are down 16 percent for the first 3 quarters of 2009 and about 10 percent for the year. This is the first significant decrease in over a decade.

The decrease in fatalities is not a function of people riding less. Vehicle miles traveled for motorcycles is down one to two percent (the number varies regionally). Miles traveled have also increased in some areas where people are swapping gas guzzler cars for small, efficient motorcycles in order to stretch their pennies as far as possible. After all, motorcycles are the single most affordable form of private transportation available to Americans.

In fact, the only addition to motorcycle safety on a national level is the motorcycle safety grant program signed into law in 2005. The program, the brain child of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF), sends federal highway dollars back to the States earmarked for rider education programs and motorcycle awareness campaigns. It is of course the good work done on a state by state basis, largely by motorcyclists, that ultimately deserves credit for this reduction in loss of life.

With the increasing numbers of new and returning riders, and concern over single vehicle motorcycle crashes, rider education and training is the only proactive measure that can truly assist motorcyclists in preventing crashes. Studies have indicated that more than 90% of accident involved riders were without formal training.

The next question is - how do you maintain the reduction? Helmet law proponents will use this

as a stepping stone to put a mandatory helmet law in place. They will point to the law as the logical next step, which it is not. We were able to achieve this reduction without a national helmet law and we can continue the trend without it. Keeping the numbers down will only be possible through quality rider education and motorist/motorcycle awareness campaigns. And of course continue the MRF's position; focus on crash avoidance and not simply safer crashing and we will save lives.

Read the full report here: <http://www.ghsa.org/html/publications/spotlight/index.html>

### **National Mandatory Motorcycle Helmet Law**

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) has learned that, in a hearing held this week by the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) repeatedly called for a national mandatory helmet law. The hearing, entitled "Opportunities to Improve Highway Safety," focused on areas that need improvement when it comes to the landscape of highway injuries and fatalities. In his opening statement, Lautenberg said that there should be a mandatory motorcycle helmet law for all riders in America. This is typical for the 86-year-old senator. He has routinely attempted to put a federal mandatory helmet law in place before. Lautenberg currently chairs or sits on every single senate committee that has jurisdiction over roads and road safety.

During this hearing, Lautenberg was not alone in his quest for an all-rider federal helmet law. As expected, the spokesperson for the Advocates for Highway Safety also voiced their opinion that a national helmet law is a good idea.

Fortunately, the hearing didn't only focus on the helmet debate; in fact, very little of it did. There were other issues covered such as impaired driving, distracted driving, and big trucks.

As always, the MRF will keep you informed on this and all issues affecting motorcyclists from Washington DC.

See you in the wind,  
**'TEDDYBEAR'**

# MEETING MINUTES



## Secretary's Report

Southwest Chapter of ABATE of Florida, Inc.

Location: Victory Lane Café

Date: May 23rd, 2010

Called to order: 10:20 am

34 Members in Attendance and 4 Guests  
Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence

VP- Excused

Guest Speaker Sharon Merchant District 27 discussed the following:

High Speed Rail Tampa-Orlando (against)

Stiffer penalties bill (voted yes)

Helmet Laws (voted for biker choice)

Voting for State Positions

President:

Doc Ricanbacher: 0

Frankie : Unanimous

Vice President:

Danny Fish: 0

Frenchie Mooreland: Unanimous

Secretary: Unopposed

Treasurer: Unopposed

Sgt. At Arms:

Mudder 20 members

Dan Daniel: 0

Membership: Unopposed

PR Webmaster: Unopposed

Masterlink:

Bob Von Bulow: 0

Karen Carawan: Unanimous

Legislative: Unopposed

Products: Unopposed

Legal: Unopposed

Secretary: Excused, covered by CJ. Barbara motioned to accept Published April minutes, second by Ray Walters.

Treasurer: Treasurer reports motion to accept Barbara Bardell and second by Robert Rabell

Safety: Pat Stonebraker aka Stoney, received his MSAP Patch.

Advertising: 4 Vendors invites to our Weekly Bike Night

Membership: Introduced new members and thank our renewals.

## **Southwest Chapter Nominations**

President: Taylor Musburger, Wayne Cerra

Vice President: Taylor Musburger, Wayne Cerra

Secretary: Barbara Bardell, CJ, Ray Walters

Treasurer: John Adams, CJ Bob Pen, Larry Dobransky

Membership: Ray Walters, Kelly Smith, John Adams, Trudy Rabell

Sergeant at arms: To Be Appointed

Pastor: Pastor Tom

Products: Wayne Cerra, CJ

\*Note...Sandy Park in North Fort Myers Possible location for this years Christmas Run. Sandy Park houses 64 Residents. See Todd Burns

Motion to Adjourn: Rob Labell 1<sup>st</sup>, Gator Morrith 2<sup>nd</sup>

Ride Hard, Ride Safe

CJ



# MISSION STATEMENT ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.

## WHO WE ARE . . .

We are a non-profit organization of motorcycle enthusiasts from all walks of life. We lobby and educate the government and the general public to promote motorcycling in a safe and positive image. We endeavor to enlist the cooperation and participation of all organizations and individuals that share a similar interest in preserving our American tradition of FREEDOM. We promote motorcycle safety, training, & political awareness. We ARE NOT A CLUB OR A GANG. We fund our work through toy runs, poker runs, campouts, and other motorcycle activities. We are your neighbors & friends who work, pay taxes, and get involved with our community. We serve and support our country and believe in freedom. We use all legal means to protect our rights without infringing on the rights of others.

## OUR GOALS . . .

- To become a powerful and viable political force in legislative matters concerning the motorcyclist.
- To promote the safe riding habits without infringing on individual freedoms.
- To motivate the bikers to write letters to their legislators before, during, and after the legislative session.
- To furnish our members with a newsletter to keep all bikers informed in regards to upcoming legislation.



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OWNER / CONTRACTOR

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## SUPPORT YOUR CHAPTER EVENTS





Thank you  
TO  
Victory Lane  
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For your  
Support  
Of  
Southwest  
Chapter

## LOOK TWICE FOR THOSE DRIVERS WHO DON'T

Hello ABATE Southwest Chapter,  
Perhaps some of your members just ride ...  
and occasionally stop by to see us. But  
we're beginning our summer hours and will  
be closed Sunday's until late August. In  
the meanwhile, come enjoy the good food,  
cold beverages, and the Porch of Knowl-  
edge! We're 10 miles east of I-75 exit 123  
(Corkscrew Road) and 10 miles west off SR  
82 (CR 850) M-Sat. 8a.m. to 8p.m.

EXCEPTION: Do you have an event you'd  
like us to host? Call and we'll be there for  
you!

Manager: Deb 239/313-9708

Owner: Connie 239/860-3512

And if you've got meetings this summer,  
let us know and we'll mail ya'll some cou-  
pons for a free beverage.

It would be our pleasure to introduce your  
members to a great destination "out in the  
country"!

Thank you.

Connie

Owner, Corkscrew Country Store

## **EDITOR'S NOTE:**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I have a feeling I will be running unopposed as Editor in the upcoming elections. I do enjoy the responsibility! I have made a career of doing for my family, my friends. This newsletter I do for the Motorcycle Rights Organization and it's members! This is my contribution to the Southwest Chapter. I take pride in my work and hope you enjoy my efforts!

I have been a resident of the area for 28 years. I have held a motorcycle license for 27 although, I did not ride on the road until 4 years ago. I am active with Family, Scouting, Billiards and this newsletter and these responsibilities, unfortunately, leave little time for Chapter Events.

I am following a tragedy and the efforts of those affected by that tragedy and post updates in our newsletter because I believe that the results will change the laws on distracted driving which affects everyone on the roads. The Black Nail Brigade is a group formed by Greg Zaffke II to promote awareness of distracted driving after his mother was killed at a stoplight on her motorcycle by a woman painting her fingernails while operating a motor vehicle. My final article will be her sentencing.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our Chapter!

Respectfully,  
Barbara L. Bardell



## **NBC2 Poll Should Florida law require that motorcyclists wear helmets?**

To all concerned about this issue, I have responded to the channel 2 news poll a couple times with no reply, The fact is that Florida does have a helmet law and motorcycle riders are required by law to wear a helmet while operating a motorcycle on Florida's roads however the law was amended and now provides a choice to riders over 21 yrs of age. Under 21 yrs of age a helmet is mandatory while operating a motorcycle on Florida roads. Along with the proper endorsement on a valid Florida driver license. If over the age of 21 and with the proper endorsement on a current and valid Florida drivers license and the proper medical insurance coverage, then you are legally within your rights to ride without a helmet.

We can go on and on about the helmet issue however folks the fact remains that we are not jumping off our motorcycles and killing ourselves. The fact is drivers of cars trucks and buses etc are failing to yield right of way and pulling out in front of us causing in many instances fatality or worse maimed for life.

The most popular response when questioned at the scene of a motorcycle crash what happened? The driver virtually always responds "I didn't see him" or number two response is "he came out of nowhere" .....Well folks I'm here to tell you that you did see me and i did not come out of nowhere.....

I know this is absolutely true because the prerequisite to obtaining a drivers license anywhere is an eye test..... so i know they work we both know they work so now what's the excuse?

Lets strive to educate the motoring public to watch out for motorcycles not because we are special but because we are extremely vulnerable to injury or death in the event of a collision. I have always stood firm that if we could prevent the crash then folks there really is no need for a helmet.

Please read the article available at the following link [http://swfl.bikerspost.com/forum/topic/show?id=2153104%3ATopic%3A101862&xgs=1&xg\\_source=msg\\_share\\_topic](http://swfl.bikerspost.com/forum/topic/show?id=2153104%3ATopic%3A101862&xgs=1&xg_source=msg_share_topic)

Ride safe,  
Frankie



HATS OFF TO ...

## CHARLIE DANIELS

*AT LEAST HE HAS THE  
COURAGE TO SPEAK  
HIS MIND!!!*

*~ Submitted by Chapter member from Internet*

*I don't know how everybody else feels about it, but to me I think Hispanic people in this country, legally or illegally, made a huge public relations mistake with their recent demonstrations. I don't blame anybody in the world for wanting to come to the United States of America, as it is a truly wonderful place.*

*But when the first thing you do when you set foot on American soil is illegal it is flat out wrong and I don't care how many lala land left heads come out of the woodwork and start trying to give me sensitivity lessons.*

*I don't need sensitivity lessons, in fact I don't have any-thing against Mexicans! I just have some-thing against criminals and anybody who comes into this country illegally is a criminal and if you don't believe it try coming into America from a foreign country without a passport and see how far you get. What disturbs me about the demonstrations is that it's tanta-mount to saying, "I am going to come into your country even if it means breaking your laws and there's nothing you can do about it."*

*It's an "in your face" action and speaking just for me, I don't like it one little bit and if there were a*

*half dozen pairs of gonads in Washington bigger than English peas it wouldn't be happening.*

*Where are you, you bunch of lily livered, panty-waist, forked tongued, sorry excuses for defenders of The Constitution? Have you been drinking the water out of the Potomac again?*

*And even if you pass a bill on immigration it will probably be so pork laden and watered down that it won't mean anything anyway. Besides, what good is another law going to do when you won't enforce the ones on the books now?*

*And what ever happened to the polls, guys? I thought you folks were the quintessential finger wettters. Well you sure ain't paying any attention to the polls this time because somewhere around eighty percent of Americans want some thing done about this mess, and mess it is and getting bigger everyday.*

*This is no longer a problem, it is a dilemma and headed for being a tragedy. Do you honestly think that what happened in France with the Muslims can't happen here when the businesses who hire these people finally run out of jobs and a few million disillusioned Hispanics take to the streets?*

*If you, Mr. President, Congressmen and Senators, knuckle under on this and refuse to do something meaningful it means that you care nothing for the kind of country your children and grand-children will inherit. But I guess that doesn't matter as long as you get re-elected.*

*Shame on you.*

*One of the big problems in America today is that if you have the nerve to say anything derogatory about any group of people (except Christians) you are going to be screamed at by the media and called a racist, a bigot and anything else they can think of to call you*

*Well I've been pounded by the media before and I'm still rockin' and rollin' and when it comes to speaking the truth I fear not.*

*And the truth is that the gutless, gonadless, milk-sop politicians are just about to sell out the United States of America because they don't have the intestinal fortitude to stand up to face reality.*

*And reality is that we would never allow any other group of people to have 12 million illegal in this country and turn around and say, "Oh it's ok, ya'll can stay here if you'll just allow us to slap your wrist."*

*And I know that some of you who read this column are saying "Well what's wrong with that?" I'll tell you what's wrong with it. These people could be from Mars as far as we know. We don't know who they are, where they are or what they're up to and the way the Congress is going we're not going to.*

*Does this make sense? Labor force you say? We already subsidize corporate agriculture as it is, must we subsidize their labor as well? If these people were from Haiti would we be so fast to turn a blind eye to them or if they were from Somalia or Afghanistan ?*

*I think not.*

*All the media shows us are pictures of hard working Hispanics who have crossed the border just to try to better their life.*

*They don't show you pictures of the Feds rounding up members of MS 13, the violent gang who came across the same way the decent folks did. They don't tell you about the living conditions of the Mexican illegal some fat cat hired to pick his crop.*

*I want to make two predictions.*

*No. 1: This situation is going to grow and fester until it erupts in violence on our streets while the wimps in Washington drag their toes in the dirt and try to figure how many tons of political hay they can make to the acre.*

*No 2: Somebody is going to cross that border with some kind of weapon of mass destruction and set it off in a major American city after which there will be a backlash such as this country has never experienced and the Capitol building in Washington will probably tilt as Congressmen and Senators rush to the other side of the issue.*

*I don't know about you but I would love to see just one major politician stand up and say, "I don't care who I make mad and I don't care how many votes I lose, this is a desperate situation and I'm going to lead the fight to get it straightened out."*

*I don't blame anybody for wanting to come to America , but if you don't respect our immigration laws why should you respect any others?*

*And by the way, this is America and our flag has stars and stripes Please get that other one out of my face.*

**God Bless America**

*Charlie Daniels*

THE AIM/NCOM MOTORCYCLE E-NEWS SERVICE is brought to you by Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (A.I.M.) and the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM), and is sponsored by the Law Offices of Richard M. Lester. For more information, call us at 1-(800) ON-A-BIKE or visit us on our website at [www.ON-A-BIKE.com](http://www.ON-A-BIKE.com).

## **NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES**

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

### **MOTORCYCLIST FATALITIES INEXPLICABLY PLUMMET**

Following more than a decade of steady increases, motorcycle rider fatalities unaccountably dipped by double-digit proportions last year. Motorcyclist deaths dropped by 16% nationwide through the first three quarters of 2009, compared to the same period in 2008 when fatalities reached their highest level of 5,290.

The study -- sponsored by the Governors Highway Safety Association, which represents state traffic safety agencies -- is drawn from preliminary fatality data from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. While there is nothing in the data to indicate the cause of the sudden decline, the GHSA asked state safety agencies to speculate on reasons for the decline, and several respondents pointed to the economy and underscored that a significant portion of motorcycling is for recreation rather than transportation. Other reasons cited in the study for the decline: Fewer beginning motorcyclists; an increase in priority given to state motorcycle safety programs; an increased awareness of motorcycles by other drivers; and colder, wetter weather in some states during the riding season. It doesn't appear helmet laws played a significant role in the decline.

The popularity of motorcycles has surged in the past decade, particularly among aging baby boomers and women, nearly doubling to more than 10 million.

During the nine-month period of the comparison, the District and 38 states reported a drop in motorcycle deaths, and 12 states recorded an increase. California had 133 fewer deaths, Florida had 111 fewer and Ohio had 48 fewer. Only two states -- Hawaii and Rhode Island -- had double-digit increases. Once numbers for the final three months of 2009 are factored in, the report projects, the annual fatality decline will be at least 10%.

### **AGING RIDERS AT HIGHER RISK**

Motorcycle riders across the country are growing older, and the impact of this trend is evident in emergency rooms nationwide as doctors are finding that senior citizens who ride motorcycles are more likely to be involved in accidents and also more likely to be injured or die than their younger counterparts.

Researchers at the University of Rochester Medical Center found that half of all motorcyclists needing emergency treatment in 2005 were over 40, nearly double the number in 1996, which is consistent with demographic data indicating that the average age of motorcycle ownership has rose from 33 years in 1998 to 40 years in 2003. Injury severity, length of stay in the hospital or intensive care unit, and mortality were higher for riders over the age of 40.

In the study, which was published in the March issue of the American Surgeon, researchers using the National Trauma Databank reviewed the records of 61,689 motorcyclists aged 17 to 89 years involved in a motorcycle crash between 1996 and 2005.

Those ages 50-59 were the fastest growing group involved with crashes, and accidents involving riders in that age group were almost twice as likely to be fatal as those involving younger bikers.

"Treating a 60-year-old who has been in a motorcycle accident is very different from treating a 21-year-old who has been in a similar accident -- 60-year-olds bring a lot more medical

baggage with them and impact outcomes," Dr. Mark Gestring, director of the trauma program at the Medical Center.

Age-related factors associated with aging, such as impaired vision, delayed reaction time, and altered balance contribute to motorcycle crashes in this population.

The increase in injury severity for older riders may be related to the reduced capacity to withstand injury as the body ages, including decreases in bone strength and brain size, as well as pre-existing medical conditions.

## **NATURALISTIC MOTORCYCLE SAFETY STUDY**

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) has announced that it will partner with the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) on the world's first motorcycle safety study that will use small video recorders and instrumentation mounted on numerous bikes for 6-18 months to gather data about the riders and events that occur.

Termed a "naturalistic" study, VTTI has developed this technology and used it successfully to conduct a 100-car study in 2005 that included 69 crashes and more than 750 near-crashes. According to the MSF, "The method is presently in use by researchers across the globe to target nearly every type of roadway user, with the exception of two-wheeled vehicles. This study, expected to be on the road by early 2011, will greatly advance the understanding of interactions among rider, motorcycle, roadway, other roadway users and the environment."

VTTI Director Tom Dingus added that "We expect the study to be very valuable to the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's work, since we also will examine where and how crash avoidance is successful. With so much information bandwidth coming from the cameras and instrumentation on each bike, we'll be able to examine details for years, and the findings will be relevant for decades."

Naturalistic Method identifies crashes using

time-series video and numeric data, reveals factors not detectable through crash investigation, creates its own controls by comparing the crash-involved rider to himself/herself at all other times, and permits quantification of rider performance and behavior in non-critical and critical riding situations.

## **GLOBAL MARKETS BOOST**

While U.S. motorcycle sales continue to drift downward, globally Honda bucked the trend by posting a 30% sales gain for first quarter of 2010, reflecting 2.54 million motorcycles sold outside of Japan.

Sales in the American market dropped 21% during the first quarter of 2010, a less precipitous slip than the previous year's 37% slide, but the rising demand for small displacement bikes in Asian markets helped the juggernaut manufacturer post a \$2.68 billion profit for the last fiscal year, a staggering 95.9% increase over the prior year.

We may find consolation in the U.S. market since our sales are sliding less steeply than before, but the evolving global marketplace is not only motivating companies like Volkswagen to purchase one fifth of Suzuki, such international sales figures are also prompting manufacturers like U.S. stalwart Harley-Davidson to divert their efforts into regions like India.

## **PATRIOT GUARD RIDERS BARRED FROM MINERS MEMORIAL**

Many of the 29 West Virginia coal miners who died at the Upper Big Branch mining explosion on April 5th were veterans and some rode motorcycles, so bereaved families had requested the Patriot Guard Riders to attend the memorial service. PGR is an informal group of motorcyclists which exists to make sure that all veterans are given respectful funerals. But they were barred from attending this service by federal officials who labeled them a security threat.

The appearance of the Patriot Guard Riders at the service, at the request of several families,

~ continued on page 28

**SOUTHWEST CHAPTER**  
OF ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.

For more information on the following please refer to [www.splittinthebreeze.com](http://www.splittinthebreeze.com)

**WEEKLY BIKE NIGHTS:**

**TUESDAY**

BEACON BOWL  
PORKY'S LAST STAND  
PELICAN LARRYS

**WEDNESDAY**

**VICTORY LANE CAFÉ**  
ARIZONA PIZZA  
ALVINO'S  
IRON RHINO  
TIKI TIME

**THURSDAY**

HOOTERS (PORT CHARLOTTE)  
ZOOKIES  
SOUTH SIDE BAR AND GRILL  
THE CAFFEINATOR  
THE HOT SPOT  
MEMORIES BAR & RESTAURANT  
THE SPOT

**FRIDAY**

PARADISE TIKI HUT  
IRON RHINO

**SATURDAY**

SALT WATER COWBOYS



# June 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr-i	Sat
For more detailed information on the following please refer to <a href="http://www.splittinthebreeze.com">www.splittinthebreeze.com</a>						
6 THUNDER RUN BIKERS AND BOOBS RUN	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 NATIONAL RIDE TO WORK DAY	22	23	24	25	26
27 Chapter Elections	28	29	30	JUNE 27TH RED WHITE AND BLUE BASH ESTERO	JUNE 27TH PAT HEALEY FALLEN HEROS RUN	

**SOUTHWEST CHAPTER**  
OF ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.

For more information on the following please refer to

[www.splitinthebreeze.com](http://www.splitinthebreeze.com)

**WEEKLY BIKE NIGHTS:**

**TUESDAY**

BEACON BOWL  
PORKY'S LAST STAND  
PELICAN LARRYS

**WEDNESDAY**

**VICTORY LANE CAFÉ**  
ARIZONA PIZZA  
ALVINO'S  
IRON RHINO  
TIKI TIME

**THURSDAY**

HOOTERS (PORT CHARLOTTE)  
ZOOKIES  
SOUTH SIDE BAR AND GRILL  
THE CAFFEINATOR  
THE HOT SPOT  
MEMORIES BAR & RESTAURANT  
THE SPOT

**FRIDAY**

PARADISE TIKI HUT  
IRON RHINO

**SATURDAY**

SALT WATER COWBOYS



# July 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 PRESERVA- TION RUN	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 CHAPTER MEETING	26	27	28	29	30	31 ANNUAL KENNY CONIDARIS EVENT

had been cleared in advance by West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin, who is also a motorcycle rider. But the day before the service, Joe Cumblidge, the West Virginia State Captain of the Patriot Guard Riders e-mailed the men who were scheduled to participate: "Due to circumstances totally and completely beyond the control of the Patriot Guard Riders and Governor Joe Manchin of West Virginia, we are regrettably ordering a STAND DOWN for this mission. Specific details will not be posted here but, we've been told we are not welcome to participate because of certain high-level dignitaries that are scheduled to be in attendance."

The "high-level dignitaries" were President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden. A Patriot Guard Rider told WSAZ in Charleston that Manchin had been forbidden to allow them to participate "because of overwhelming security concerns with high-ranking federal officials -- it was just not logistically possible for them to be a part of the event."

Both Obama and Biden managed to escape West Virginia unharmed.

## **LEGAL CHALLENGES TO MICHIGAN HELMET LAW**

Several members of ABATE of Michigan rode to the Lenawee County judicial building on Tuesday, April 20th to show support for a fellow motorcyclist who is challenging a non-compliant helmet ticket. Ryan Hildebrand, 26, is one of nearly a dozen riders ticketed this spring by Adrian police Sgt. Lynn Courington for wearing helmets that the state claims do not meet federal Department of Transportation standards.

Representing the group of ticketed riders is Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (A.I.M.) attorney Lawrence "Katman" Katkowsky, who filed an appearance for the helmet defendant. A formal hearing was set for June 29 in district court, and Katkowsky said he will try to consolidate all the helmet infraction cases that are being

challenged for the June 29 hearing. "The issues are all the same," he said.

He is taking on the helmet enforcement issue in Lenawee County on behalf of ABATE of Michigan, which also has a lawsuit pending in United State District Court in Grand Rapids, challenging the state's DOT helmet rule.

One of the enforcement issues Katkowsky will raise is regarding probable cause to justify a traffic stop on a civil infraction. ABATE claims in the lawsuit that police have to look inside a helmet to determine if it meets DOT standards, and therefore cannot claim plain sight evidence to justify a traffic stop and request to inspect a helmet. No trial date is scheduled.

## **ANGRY FRENCH MOTORCYCLISTS SNARL TRAFFIC IN PROTEST**

Forty thousand motorcyclists demonstrated all over France in protest of a recent Government announcement to fine any bikers caught filtering through traffic ("lane splitting"), and more than 60 cities saw their roads blocked by hordes of angry riders who said NON to French authorities who propose to treat motorbikes, scooters and mopeds like cars and require them to stay in their lane one behind another.

So, they behaved like cars! On March 13th the La Fédération Française Des Motards en Colère (FFMC - the French Federation of Angry Bikers) urged all motorcyclists to occupy the space of one car in each lane, and within minutes an enormous traffic jam was created that gridlocked the whole of Paris on a busy Saturday afternoon as car drivers were stuck in traffic until late in the evening.

While bikers blocked the roadways above ground, other protestors went underground bringing the subway system to a grinding halt in response to a statement made by French Transport Secretary Jean-Marc Belotti, who said "If they (bikers) are not happy, they can

take the metro like everyone else.”

They inconvenience us, we will inconvenience them, responded the FFMC, which set a fine example of civil obedience to demonstrate the impact of motorcycles on traffic flow, good or bad.

### **WEIRD NEWS: EASY WRITERS TEXT WHILE RIDING**

Everyone knows that texting while driving can be dangerous. Now consider this: texting while riding a motorcycle, in heavy traffic! It's not uncommon in Vietnam, where 29 million motorcycles are the primary source of transportation.

Pham Thi Thuy Linh is 21, a college student and -- according to a recent contest sponsored by a mobile phone company -- has the fastest fingers in Vietnam. She can text 160 characters in 25 seconds, though she admits she is “about 20 or 30 percent slower texting on my bike.”

She doesn't much care that texting while driving is both illegal and not too smart. Tran Van Thanh is a senior official in the government's office of traffic safety. He told National Public Radio that understands the concerns about texting while driving, but says people's bad habits will take time to change, and with limited resources it's impossible to crack down on everyone for everything.

Meanwhile, contest-winner Pham says she can't wait to get one of the new iPhone packages. She says it will enable her to text even faster than she does now, from everywhere -- including her bike.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: “Extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice. Moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue.”  
Senator Barry Goldwater (1909-1998) U.S. Senator from Arizona ■



# ABATE of Florida, Inc Gator Alley Chapter



Presents the  
10th Annual

# PRESERVATION RUN

Join us as we bring back an old tradition by riding around  
LAKE OKEECHOBEE... *"Let those who RIDE... DECIDE"*

Start:	V.F.W.	800 Neffs Way Naples, FL 34119
Registration:	8:00am	Receives Run Info
Participant*:	\$5.00	Each (includes poker hand)
Kickstands Up:	9:00am	
Last Bike In:	1:00pm	Refreshments
Ends:	Rick Loy	6696 Hwy 441 SE Okeechobee, FL 34974
Event Over:	2:00pm	

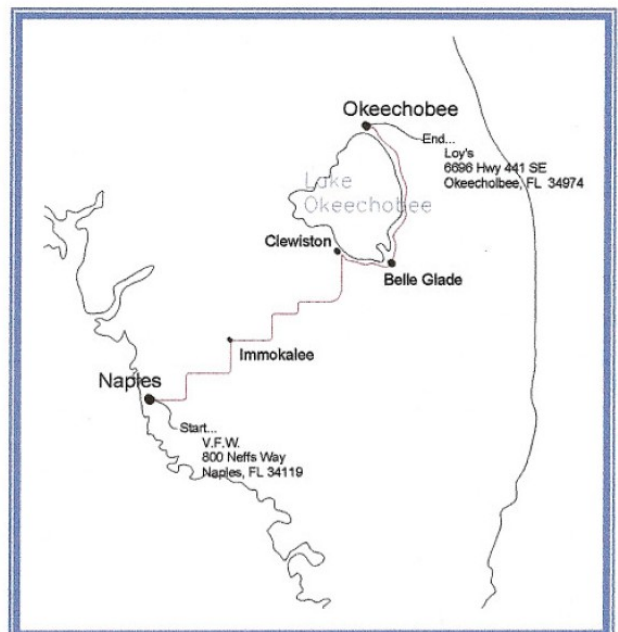
\* Prize for best hand...

for more information  
contact  
**Denise Russo**, Chairperson  
239.596.3925  
membership@gatoralley.net  
**Tina Loy**, Co-Chairperson  
239.825.2490  
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  
[www.gatoralley.net](http://www.gatoralley.net)

**Saturday  
July 17, 2010**



**JIM WAS HIDING HIS  
MOTORCYCLE AND  
GOT HIT BY A CAR...**

**JIM DIED!**




**JIM'S FAMILY MISSES HIS  
START SEEING MOTORCYCLES**

Motorcycle Safety Awareness Program Presented By:  
**ABATE of Florida, Inc.**  
PO Box 2520 • DeLand, Florida 32721-0520  
(386) 943-9610

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**MOTORCYCLE RIDERS ARE  
FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE**



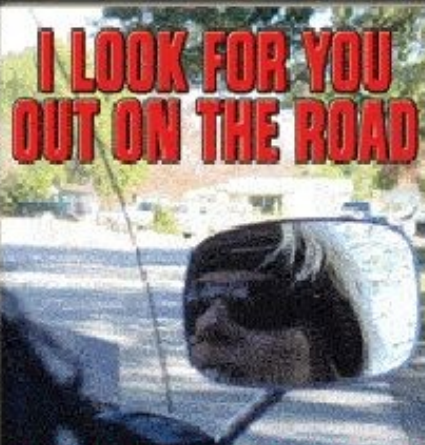
**LOOK TWICE SAVE A LIFE,  
LOOK FOR MOTORCYCLES**

Motorcycle Safety Awareness Program Presented By:  
**ABATE of Florida, Inc.**  
[www.abateflorida.com](http://www.abateflorida.com)  
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Motorcycle Safety Awareness Program Presented By:  
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**I LOOK FOR YOU  
OUT ON THE ROAD**




**RETURN THE FAVOR!  
START SEEING MOTORCYCLES!**

Motorcycle Safety Awareness Program Presented By:  
**ABATE of Florida, Inc.**  
PO Box 2520 • DeLand, Florida 32721-0520  
(386) 943-9610

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**DON'T LET THIS BE YOUR FIRST  
IMPRESSION OF A MOTORCYCLIST**




**LOOK TWICE - SAVE A LIFE  
MOTORCYCLES ARE EVERYWHERE!**

Motorcycle Safety Awareness Program Presented By:  
**ABATE of Florida, Inc.**  
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(386) 943-9610

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**WHAT DOES MATTER!**



**MOTORCYCLES ARE OUT THERE...  
LOOK FOR THEM!**

Motorcycle Safety Awareness Program Presented By:  
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(386) 943-9610

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**ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC STATE MEETING  
HOSTED BY THE GULF COAST CHAPTER  
JUNE 12, 2010**

Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup> there will be a "Meet and Greet" at the Comfort Inn on Pensacola Beach 6 pm until ?

Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 12 pm is the State Board Meeting at "Our Lady of Assumption" Catholic Church (Hunt Hall) 920 Via DeLuna Way on Pensacola Beach

State Delegate Meeting 2 pm until ? – all are welcome with lunch being provided by the Gulf Coast Chapter

Come celebrate the Gulf Coast Chapter's 15<sup>th</sup> birthday with a party after the meeting – 7 pm until ? – Sandshaker Lounge and Grill next door to the Comfort Inn

Lots of restaurant choices within walking distance on Pensacola Beach

Comfort Inn, 40 Pickens Road, Pensacola Beach has a block of rooms reduced well below summer rates to ABATE of Florida, Inc for \$99 plus tax per night. Features a swimming pool and private beach area with free continental breakfast from 6:30 am to 9:30 am daily. Call (850) 934-5400 for reservations and ask for ABATE rates.

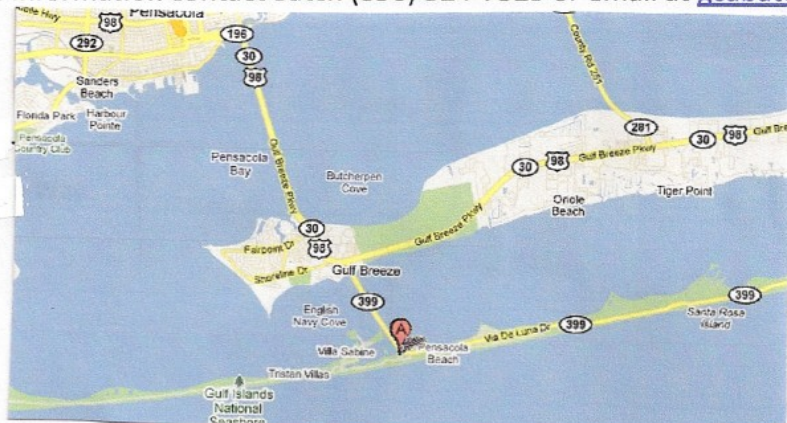
Camping available with advance reservations. Call Satch @ (850) 324-7529 for location of campgrounds.

**DIRECTIONS:** Hwy 98 to Gulf Breeze. Turn at Pensacola Beach sign. Cross bridge to toll booth \$1.00. Continue on Via DeLuna to intersection. Turn right on Ft. Pickens Rd. Comfort Inn is on right beside Sandshaker Lounge.

**DIRECTIONS TO MEETING HALL FROM COMFORT INN:** Take a left after crossing road to the intersection. Turn right on Via DeLuna and go approximately 3 miles – "Our Lady of Assumption" and Hunt Hall on the right.

Any questions or more information contact Satch (850) 324-7529 or email at [gcabatepres@bellsouth.net](mailto:gcabatepres@bellsouth.net).

Welcome To  
Pensacola Beach

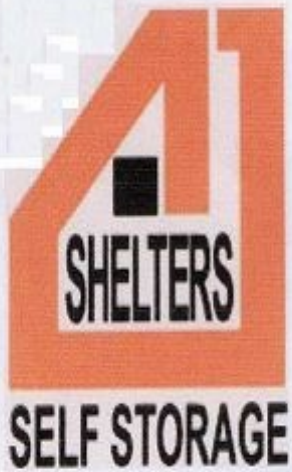


ABATE of Florida, Inc and the Gulf Coast Chapter DO NOT condone drinking and driving.

ABATE membership and safety and awareness information will be available.

Donations to ABATE of Florida Inc and the Gulf Coast Chapter are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.

## Self storage facility in Cape Coral and North Fort Myers Florida. A-1 Shelters



A-1 Shelters, Convenient Locations in Cape Coral and North Fort Myers Florida

### A-1 Shelters Self Storage in Cape Coral and Fort Myers, Florida

**Cape Coral** (Near City Hall)  
1014 SE 12th Place  
Cape Coral, FL. 33990  
**239-574-4184**

A1 Shelters has provided Lee County's storage needs since 1975. Our wide variety of air-conditioned and non a/c self storage units provide space for household furniture, records storage, car and boat storage and we also have RV vehicle storage. Call or email us for unit availability.

**Pine Island Road**  
1318 Pine Island Road  
Cape Coral, FL. 33909  
**239-574-8182**  
**800-718-0733**

#### ▶ Concrete Units

Our concrete storage buildings with their concrete and cement tiled roofs provide "peace of mind" for your personal self storage needs. A welcome change over metal buildings.

#### ▶ Remote Business Locations

We provide remote company locations for inventory storage, distribution staging and vendor storage. We accept Fed-Ex and UPS deliveries.

**North Fort Myers**  
16130 N. Cleveland Ave.  
North Fort Myers, FL. 33903  
**239-656-2070**

#### ▶ Clean, Well Lighted Facilities

There's plenty of light for security and visibility around our individual buildings. Our air conditioned buildings feature electronic access while most outdoor facilities are equipped with electronic gates and computerized access.

**Park 720 RV Storage**  
An A1 Shelters Affiliate  
710 NE 25th Ave  
Cape Coral, FL. 33909  
**239-573-9990**

[www.A-1 Shelters.com](http://www.A-1 Shelters.com)

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# ABATE OF FLORIDA INCORPORATED

# 5-STAR Event


**July 31, 2010**




**STARTS AT: 10:00AM**  
VICTORY LANE CAFE  
4120 Hancock Bridge Pky N.  
Fort Myers  
849-9065



**STARTS AT: 10:00AM**  
VFW  
4709 SE 11th Place  
Cape Coral  
560-8457



**STARTS AT: 10:00AM**  
SAN CARLOS C.C.  
19137 S Tamiami Tr.  
Fort Myers  
289-2647



**STARTS AT: 10:00AM**  
VFW  
7721 800 Neffs Way  
Naples  
776-9690



**STARTS AT: 10:00AM**  
NORTHPORT COM. CENTER  
4940 Pan American Blvd.  
Northport  
468-0617

★ 5 CHAPTERS

★ 5 POKER RUNS

★ FIRST BIKE OUT 10:00am  
from each Chapter Meeting Place

★ LAST BIKE OUT 11:00am

★ LAST BIKE IN 3:00pm

★ EVENT ENDS AT 6:00pm

★ FINAL STOP:  
Corkscrew County Store  
19990 Corkscrew Rd  
Estero, FL 33928

★ LIVE MUSIC

★ BIKE GAMES

★ 50/50

★ DOOR PRIZES

★ LARGEST ATTENDING CHAPTER  
TROPHY AWARD

★ \$10 PER POKER HAND (*includes  
meal at end*)

**ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. AND THESE  
5 CHAPTERS DOES NOT CONDONE DRINKING  
ALCOHOL WITH RIDING/DRIVING.**  
*Donation to Abate of Florida Inc., Monetary or Otherwise,  
are NOT Tax Deductible.*

MEMBERSHIP  
AND SAFETY  
INFORMATION  
AVAILABLE.

# **FRIENDS**

**VS.**

# **BIKER FRIENDS**

FRIENDS: Never ask for food  
BIKER FRIENDS: Are the reason you have no food.

FRIENDS: Will say "hello"  
BIKER FRIENDS: Will give you a big hug and a kiss.

FRIENDS: Call your parents Mr. and Mrs.  
BIKER FRIENDS: Call your parents mom and dad.

FRIENDS: Have never seen you cry.  
BIKER FRIENDS: Cry with you.

FRIENDS: Will eat at your dinner table and leave  
BIKER FRIENDS: Will spend hours there, talking, laughing and just being together

FRIENDS: Borrow your stuff for a few days then give it back.  
BIKER FRIENDS: Keep your stuff so long they forget it's yours.

FRIENDS: know a few things about you.  
BIKER FRIENDS: Could write a book with direct quotes from you.

FRIENDS: Will leave you behind if that's what the crowd is doing.  
BIKER FRIENDS: Will kick the whole crowds' ass that left you.

FRIENDS: Would knock on your door.  
BIKER FRIENDS: Walk right in and say, "I'm home!"

FRIENDS: Are for a while.  
BIKER FRIENDS: Are for life.

HONDA • YAMAHA • SUZUKI • POLARIS



**(239)277-7777 • FAX (239) 939-3598**

3441 COLONIAL BLVD., SUITE 1 • FT. MYERS, FL 33966  
[www.sunsportscycle.com](http://www.sunsportscycle.com) • E-mail:[sales@sunsportscycle.com](mailto:sales@sunsportscycle.com)



# SWAMPFEST PHOTOS



Special thanks to Ms. Donna Ellis from the Shell Factory, Thanks also to Wayne Cerra, current nominee for chapter president. We had Birdie, Smokey, Richie, Kelly, Ray Biffle, Gator, Eileen, CJ, Pat and others all step up and work the event in one way or another thanks so much to all of you your efforts are greatly appreciated. Thank you to Trick Rick for his efforts and putting on a great bike show.





**ABATE of Florida, Inc.  
Southwest Chapter**

PO BOX 60745 • Fort Myers, FL 33906

**ADVERTISING RATE SCHEDULE**

<u>STYLE</u>	<u>6 MONTHS</u>	<u>12 MONTHS</u>
BUSINESS CARD	\$ 45.00	\$ 70.00
4 X 5	\$ 75.00	\$ 125.00
8 X 5	\$ 135.00	\$ 235.00
FULL PAGE	\$ 190.00	\$ 365.00

BUSINESS CARD & 4 x 5 MONTHLY RATE IS \$15.00

8 x 5 MONTHLY RATE \$25.00

FULL PAGE MONTHLY RATE \$45.00

QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT KELLY SMITH @ 239-245-4669

ADVERTISING INFORMATION:

BUSINESS NAME:

CONTACT PERSON:

MAILING ADDRESS:

BUSINESS NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ ALT. NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ ADVERTISEMENT SIZE: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR SOUTHWEST CHAPTER USE

AD START DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ AD RENEWAL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE PAYMENT RECEIVED: \_\_\_\_\_

FORM OF PAYMENT: CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_ MONEY ORDER # \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRATION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADVERTISER RECEIPT SENT: \_\_\_\_\_

Donations to ABATE of Florida, Inc. or Southwest Chapter are not deductible as Charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes

# Southwest Chapter Meeting Schedule

June 27th, 2010

@ 10 a.m. at

Victory Lane Café

Located at

4150 Hancock Bridge Pkwy.,  
North Fort Myers, FL 33903  
239.995.0340

