

# ABATE of Oregon

## Membership Newsletter

vol. 6 no. iii

May 1981

# OREGON GETS

# HELMET LAWS

RIDE FREE IN 82 ? ?

On Wednesday, April 8, Senate Bill 554 was before the Senate Transportation Committee in Salem, and testimony was heard. Most of it was in favor of the Helmet Law.

I said, MOST OF THE TESTIMONY WAS IN FAVOR OF THE MANDATORY HELMET LAW.

Now that I have your attention.....your State Board of Directors has always tried to protect ABATE Members, and one way of doing this is to remind you all that there will ALWAYS be a Helmet Law introduced every Legislative Session in Oregon. If the Session goes on a yearly basis, instead of every two years, we will probably see it every year. Period. NOW IS THE TIME to do what we can do to defeat this thing. It is a whole lot easier to defeat the Bill than it is to repeal the Law. NEVER, NEVER, NEVER sit back and think you have killed the issue once and for all. As soon as you are not paying attention, it will slide through, and this time, we have a tough job ahead of us. The Bill was introduced and assigned to Committee very quickly. Slick. Testimony was heard April 8, and will also be heard on April 13, with a Work Session scheduled on Friday, April 17.

Here are some possibilities: the Bill will be voted on, passed, and then must pass on the House side, then go to the Governor, where he can sign it, or ignore it, in which case it becomes law; if he vetoes it, it should not. The Bill can be voted down by the committee, in which case the supporters of it can demand a re-vote. Then it could be passed at that point, even if it was defeated the first time. It can be tabled. If it is tabled at the time the Legislative Session closes, it will die a natural death, and must be re-introduced next Session. It will be.

NOW, ARE YOU STARTING TO GET THE PICTURE? Ok. Even though it may not seem like it, the biggest thing we have going for us as a group is writing letters. Now, newer Members may not agree with this, but history shows that our letters will do the job. Even if you feel like one letter from you won't do much, write anyway. Here's the thing. If our elected representatives in Salem get a form letter on a subject, they may not read it; it may very possibly go into the "round file". If they get a typewritten letter, they figure a couple more people agree with the writer, and stack it with the "for" or "against", as is fitting. BUT: if they get a hand written letter, even a "Please vote no on this, thank you", they figure that about ten other people agree with the writer, but just wouldn't write a letter. So, your one letter is actually eleven votes against the Helmet Law. So do it.

Now, in the last Newsletter, there was some information about a Helmet Law, and hints on writing letters. That Helmet Law is a different one, that was introduced on the other side of the system: the House of Representatives. So, there are actually two Helmet Bills. It's a rule that if there are two Bills dealing with the same subject, only one can be tabled at a time; the other one must be worked on. So, even if we get the Senate Bill tabled, the House Bill will start cooking. For those of you who play chess, this is where they say "Check". I don't know about the rest of you, but I ain't waiting around for "Check-Mate". We will have the opportunity to give more testimony on April 13, and by the time this Newsletter hits the streets, there will be more information, so stay in touch with your local chapter. If you can't make the meetings, try to at least call one of your local officers and find out what is happening. If you have a friend handy, send them to the meeting to take notes for you. It's worth the hassle.

If you do nothing else within the first ten minutes after you read this, write a letter. The last Newsletter had good information on letter writing. If you don't have it, write to: Senate Transportation Committee, State Capitol, Salem Oregon 97310. If it is addressed to the committee, they all should get a copy. The Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee is Senator Isham. The other members are: Wyers, Wingard, Smith, Groener, Bullock and Hartung. If one of these people represents the area you live in, write to that one and mention that you are a voter. It helps.

We will do our best to keep you informed. If you need more information, or desire an update, you can also call our Toll Free Line on Wednesday evenings, between 7 and 8pm. The number is: 1-800-452-8577.

GET INVOLVED OR GO BUY A HELMET. That's the last word.



## LANE COUNTY:

Well, if you missed it, the joke's on YOU. Our Lane County Chapter held their very successful First Annual April Fools Run on April 4th and 5th. The ride took you through some lovely, luscious green forest area, with almost no other traffic. The camp area included parking, regular "campsites", and an area with a concrete floor, roof, and a large fireplace. Since there is very little other evidence of "civilization" out there, the source of drinking water was a big old cast iron hand pump, with a little bowl on one side that you had to fill up. (It was easy.)

There was plenty of room for the bike games, for which trophies were awarded, and although it rained that night, there was lots of sun on Saturday, and even some on Sunday: enough to dry out and get home in for sure. Dinner was chili, and was included in the price, as was the beer and soda pop. Breakfast the next morning was for sale for two dollars. It was scrambled eggs, little sausages, hotcakes, piled high on the plate, and coffee. At the gate, and throughout the day, you could buy a special run Button, and the number on the back of it was good for the raffle prize of a nice clock made out of a burl (wood). Included in the gate price was another raffle ticket and the prize was a \$40 gift certificate from Make It Run bike shop in Eugene. I forget who won the clock, but I won the other one. Neat, huh? Sort of made up for the fact that I went in my truck because my scooter is down. So, for anybody who stayed home because of false pride, I got the goodies, and you missed it. After the raffles, the buttons were handed out to anybody in attendance who wanted one.

I'm real sorry that I don't know the names of the people who did all the work, and if I think of a couple and only name them, it wouldn't be fair. So, whoever can set me straight on that issue is more than welcome to do so. However, those who did put on the run can all kick back with a sigh of satisfaction right now, because y'all did a real good job, and you can be proud of it.

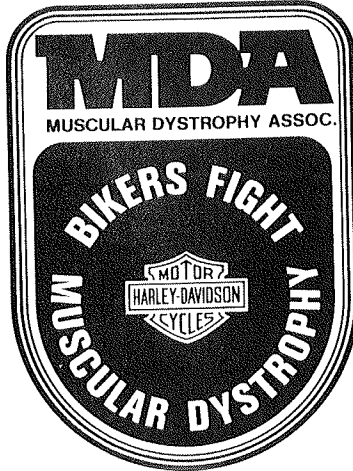
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# ABATE of OREGON



presents

PRIZES



TOUR  
OREGON  
north-south

## RIDE AGAINST MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY June 20-21, 1981

Yes! I want to ride against Muscular Dystrophy. Send me my registration packet, including sponsor sign-up sheets and route map.

PLEASE \* NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
\* ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT \* CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Send this form to: Ride Against M. D.  
c/o Rainwood Cycle  
107 E. 2nd  
The Dalles, Oregon 97058

We are all under the impression that this will be an Annual affair for Lane County Chapter. I hope so. For those of you who missed out for unavoidable reasons, next year, ok? The rest of ya: yer snoozin and loozin.



RIVER CITY CHAPTER: Has elected new officers. They are as follows:  
Chairman: Mark Pellissier Secretary: Martin Richelderfer  
Co-Chairman: Darrell Gosson Treas./Sgt-at-Arms: Dan Smith

Their meetings are the first and third Monday, at 8pm, at Spookey's Pizza in The Dalles. For more information call: 298-4534. If you don't recognize any of these names.....go to a meeting and DEMAND that they introduce themselves. They would LOVE to see you there.



The State Board of Directors also had a change: the new Editor for the Newsletter is me: Sugar-Kane. SO.....if there's anything about the Newsletter you don't like, tell Sugar all about it. I can handle it.

CHAPTER MEETINGS

- Douglas County Chapter: 1st Sunday, 1:00 at Stewart's Park. Call Howard Campbell at 679-5517 for more info.
- Lane County Chapter: 2nd Sunday, 12:00 at Hendricks Park. Call Wes Denison at 687-9762 for more info.
- N. E. Portland Chapter: 2nd and 4th Wednesday. Call Rotten Roger at 287-2795 for time and place.
- S. E. Portland Chapter: 1st and 3rd Monday at Red Baron Pizza on 122nd. Call John Reba at 777-8441 for time and more info.
- River City Chapter: 1st and 3rd Monday, 8:00 at Spooky's. Call Mark Pellissier at 298-4534 for more info.
- Jackson County (Medford): call Vern Van Riper at 779-2646 for info.

HOW TO WRITE YOUR LEGISLATOR

Use proper forms of address.

Legislators do want to hear from their constituents, however, letters should be brief and to the point. Follow these hints to get your message across

- Always identify the bill number and subject matter.
- Write when the bills are being considered in committee.
- Write to the legislator who represents you, not everyone.
- State why you support or oppose the legislation, and how it would affect you, your family, or business.
- Write in your own words, don't copy someone else's letter or just sign your name to a printed letter.
- Don't make any threats, be constructive.
- If a legislator does something that you appreciate, let him or her know.
- Only write about one subject per letter

The Honorable Vera Katz  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol  
Salem, Oregon 97310  
(Dear Mr./Ms./Mrs )

The Honorable Fred Heard  
Oregon State Senate  
State Capitol  
Salem, Oregon 97310  
(Dear Senator )

ABATE OF OREGON FORMS LEGISLATIVE COALITION WITH AMA:

We have made the decision to form a Legislative Coalition with District 28 of the American Motorcycle Association. We have worked with the AMA during past Legislative Sessions, and feel the need for a pooling of resources, and a united front. It must be clearly understood that this is a temporary project, formed for the purpose of working during this Session only. It is a rather loosely structured thing. However, we welcome their support of our efforts, and though we have separate Bills to work on this time, we are all working toward the same goals.

# BIKERS' RIGHTS: NOT JUST YOUR IMAGINATION.

Ever feel like a minority? Motorcycle riders in Oregon are not a real "minority", according to the statistics on the number of registered motorcycles in this state. But, somehow, that just doesn't seem to cover it. Does it?

Back in the Soaring Sixties, when some folks were finding out that even Uncle Sam would back off if you put your "religion" up front, the Federal government started asking itself "Just what the hell is a religion, anyhow?" Given our deeply religious governmental heritage, they were sort of afraid to get into it too heavy, and we can suppose that by defining a religion very closely, they would in fact be inventing it, or making laws about it, which is a very tricky business for the government to get into, see. (At least in America, it is. So far.) But the issue was draft evasion during an undeclared war. They couldn't let that one slide too far. They couldn't have all those dirty hippies getting out of a haircut, bath and good old fashioned Army Discipline by hiding behind the Preachers' Robes. On the other hand, the Federal Government couldn't exactly face down righteously angry Quaker parents of eligible-aged sons, either. (Now THAT would have been a declared war.) To borrow a phrase "Oh, My God." How were they to drag their beaureaucratic asses through this one and come out of it alive? Well, here's what they did:

Rather than set up a definition of "what is a religion", they established guidelines for deciding whether or not a person's religion was in fact the issue. If so, that person could not be at the wrong end of different treatment directly because of that religion. Now, right away they ran into a problem with the word "religion", so they included the words "a set of sincerely held religious beliefs". In order for a belief to be "religious" in nature, the belief must indicate or otherwise motivate a certain standard of behavior (actions; what you do or don't do). The belief, or "set" of beliefs must also hold a position of importance in your life that is equal or equivalent to the beliefs and following actions of the ones held by a person who belongs to an "orthodox", or well-recognized Church. (We all know what American Churches are.) HOWEVER, the fact that a belief or set of beliefs is not ordinary (orthodox), familiar, well-recognized, or otherwise widely held by others, is NOT an indication that the belief is NOT a religion. In other words, just because you never heard of it before, doesn't mean it ain't so. The only test of a religion, therefore, is not whether the judge in question has heard of your religion, or whether he belongs to it, or whether he disagrees with it, but rather, your "sincerity of belief".

Now, how you gonna know if a guy is "sincere" in his belief? Let me give you an example. If you worked for a company that made everybody take turns working weekends, and after two years, you decided you would refuse to work weekends, and they said you better work weekends or you're fired, well you could say "It's against my religion to work on Saturdays." So, your boss would check you out and find out you just joined a church which had that doctrine, say, two weeks ago. Right there, your sincerity of belief might be questioned, especially when you had been doing a lot of talking about going hunting this year. However, let's say you had been attending the church for two or three years, had been taking 'instruction', and therefore had just joined formally because you needed the instruction period, and time to check it out etc before you made it formal. So then your beliefs with this church might in fact be very sincere. This is a very simple example, and there are a lot more questions to be asked and answered in order to make a decision in a specific case, but this is the general idea.

cont'd...

BIKERS' RIGHTS, cont'd.

NOW, lets look back at motorcycle riders. How do YOU feel about being free to ride? If your employer told you to get rid of your motorcycle or go find another job, how would you react? And, if it really came down to it, would you let your job go, or sell your bike? See, if you don't have a job, you won't have the money to hire a lawyer to sue your boss. If you keep your job and sell your scoot, you will have the money, but you won't be free to ride. Get it? Right where it hurts. So when it comes to going into a restaurant and being refused service because you came in on a motorcycle, it's so easy to just go on down the road....compared to jail time for letting the management know how you feel about their discriminatory policies, that is. Plus getting you head beat in by a public servant, in the Name of the Law, maybe, huh? We are posing these questions so that you as an individual can decide, or at least think about, how important riding a motorcycle is in your life.

For some of us, being free to ride and pursue our lifestyle as motorcycle riders is as important in our lives as going to church every Sunday is to members of say the Catholic church. (The examples are endless, here in the Land of the Free.) So how come our beliefs aren't protected the way they are for other people, just because their religion dictates that they go inside a building and chant words together, etc, and we don't? I thought the government didn't specify what you had to do in order to be a religion? Well, we are protected, but that protection is untested in a court of law. The government does not specify, but they do control the courts. See? There are Class-Action lawsuits filed on behalf of motorcycle riders on this issue, but that is not the purpose of this writing. The purpose is to provoke thought in you, the rider. The purpose is to let you know that there is a Biker's Church in Oregon, and it is not affiliated with any other organization. It does not have a building, but could if you wanted to be in one. It does not ask for money, but could use it. It does not recruit Members, but wants to let you know it is here. It could provide you with legal protection of your rights, but it helps if you are a Member of Record. Most Members are Members in Spirit, because it is such a personal and delicate issue, that it is difficult to discuss, even with friends. It's none of most people's business. But it's real.

And, the purpose is to let you know, when you might be feeling beaten down as a biker, that you are right to want to be free. You are right to want to live, and live free as a motorcycle rider. You are right to want to try to be happy in your own way, and mind your own business while doing it. Doesn't that sound a lot like "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness"? It is, man, it is. We are here. Biker's Church: "Autonomy--Power--Freedom"  
With love and respect.



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The River City Chapter  
of

ABATE of Oregon

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THE  
4<sup>th</sup>  
ANNUAL

# FOSSIL RUN

Stew!

Events!

WHEN: April 25 & 26

WHERE: Shelton Wayside  
12 miles S. of Fossil

HOW MUCH: \$6 ADVANCE  
\$8 AT GATE

Send advance ticket money  
no later than April 1 to:

Fossil Run Committee  
2326 E. 12th St.  
The Dalles, Oregon 97058

See the second annual Tug-o-War - watch  
the "East" defend its title!

Bilce Show (Sun.) ride ins only, #1 entry,  
CASH PRIZES, 2 classes

Join us in a ride from The Dalles. Ride  
leaves The Dalles Bridge Junction at 11:00 AM  
April 25

LATE INFO: TWO NEW CHAPTERS RECEIVE CHARTERS:

Springfield - Ed Bromley 726-8374

Klamath Falls - Preston Shaw 882-7070 Meetings at Arcade Hotel  
2nd & Last Thursdays 7:30 pm



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Biker's Church  
of Oregon

AUTONOMY • POWER • FREEDOM

ABATE SCRAPBOOK: Camp Westwind  
WORK PARTY, 1981



Supervisor, second from left



So that's where he was all day!



Is this man dead?  
dead tired, you bet!



We cut & stacked six cords of wood - starting from the trees - the dead wood was ready to fall, on people's cabins.



DON'T MAKE THE MISTAKE of thinking the AMA is just for racers or dresser riders, and not for you---the AMA is our only effective voice in Washington, D.C.

A measley \$15 will bring you a magazine that tells you about what they are doing to keep the Feds in line, and a few other goodies besides.

We are all riding on the same roads, under the same laws!

**AMA . . . We Keep You Riding!**

\$15.00 **FULL MEMBERSHIP** Includes the right to participate in AMA-sanctioned racing meets, AMERICAN MOTORCYCLIST and voting privileges for Class A Regional Trustees.

6.00 **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** Must have Full Member residing at same address. Does not include AMERICAN MOTORCYCLIST, voting privileges or the right to participate in AMA-sanctioned racing meets.

New Member     Renewal, AMA No. \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Master Charge/Visa card # \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with remittance to:  
AMA, P.O. Box 141, Westerville, OH 43081

**We are interested in you!**

1 Mark "1" next to your primary motorcycle activity and "2" next to your secondary motorcycle activity

A <input type="checkbox"/> Daily transportation	G <input type="checkbox"/> Scrambles
B <input type="checkbox"/> Organized tours or road runs	H <input type="checkbox"/> Desert
C <input type="checkbox"/> Personal long-distance touring	I <input type="checkbox"/> Hillclimb
D <input type="checkbox"/> Road race	J <input type="checkbox"/> Enduro
E <input type="checkbox"/> Dirt track	K <input type="checkbox"/> Observed trials
F <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcross	L <input type="checkbox"/> Non-competitive trail riding

2 Number of motorcycles presently owned \_\_\_\_\_

3 Years riding experience \_\_\_\_\_

4 Age \_\_\_\_\_ 5 Sex \_\_\_\_\_

6 Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to accept, with AMA rule, for sanctioned motorcycle meets, and I understand that all benefits for race activities are contingent on my membership. I will accept the right to enter sanctioned meets which reserves the right, automatically, to prohibit that I be eligible for Full Membership dues as for my monthly AMERICAN MOTORCYCLIST and that my activities receive all benefits except AMERICAN MOTORCYCLIST voting privileges or the right to participate in racing meets. AMA benefits may be changed from time to time by the AMA Board of Trustees.

I understand that the AMA cannot assume responsibility for any aspect of my safety, and that if I participate in any sanctioned meet I do so voluntarily at my own assessment of my ability, the track, and all facilities and conditions, assuming all risk and I release and hold the AMA harmless for any injury or loss to my person or property which may result therefrom.

Member, Dealer or Club No. \_\_\_\_\_

A  
B  
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- A BROTHERHOOD The state of being a brother; and association of people of the same order; the mutual regard resulting from this association.
- AGAINST In contact with; opposite to; in opposition to; in preparation for; in exchange.
- TOTALITARIAN (TO-TAL-I-TAR-I-AN) Of or relating to a political regime based on subordination of the individual to the state and strict control of all aspects of the life and productive capacity of the nation by coercive measures.
- ENACTMENTS To make into law; the passing of a bill into law; a decree; a law.

*means Freedom*

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM  NEW  RENEWAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

- \$10 enclosed--full membership (includes newsletter)
- \$ 5 enclosed for each additional member at same address, paid at same time as full membership (no newsletter)

Each member will receive membership card and patch.

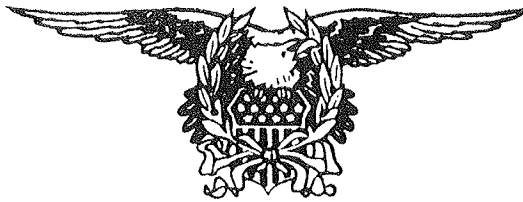
List full names of additional members:

Send to: ABATE of Oregon  
P. O. Box 4504  
Portland, Oregon 97208

MONTH MAY YEAR 1981

10

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 Douglas County	4 S.E. Portland River City	5	6 N.E. Portland	7	8	9
10 Lane County Jackson County	11	12	13	14 KLAMATH FALLS	15	16
17	18 S.E. Portland River City	19	20 N.E. Portland	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 KLAMATH FALLS	29	30
31						



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HAS YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRED???