

# United Motorcyclists of Vermont

Dedicated to motorcycle safety, Education, pro Motorcycle Legislation & Individual Freedom

OCTOBER 2008

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## MIN OF OCTOBER MEETING

The meeting was held at the V.F.W in Hyde Park, with 11 members present.

5 board members, 6 regular members, there were no guests.

The secretaries report was read and accepted, as was the treasurers.

### **TOY RUN**

We received a call at the end of last month about a complaint to the city of Montpeilier about the noise caused by the bikes in the toy run. Someone had complained we made to much noise and we were not in compliance with the cities noise ordinance.

Our organization got together with Teds Flying Hogs & Vietnam Vets MC and local law enforcement, who were in support of us, and went to the

city councils meeting.

There were about 25 people in favor of our run, and we found out the complaint was made by one person, who claims to be a biker!

In the end the Mayor and the City Council, were in favor of our run, and said if we need a variance for the noise, one would be issued.

We would like to thank the Mayor and the City Council, and the public for their support, and to the Law enforcement who showed up in support of us!

### **HELMET LAW**

Every two years the helmet law bill has to be re-introduced, if it doesn't make it off the wall, to be introduced. This year we have two representatives, and one Senator who have agreed to sponser this bill. Reps. are John Morley(R), and John Rodgers(D) both from Orleans 2 and the Senator is Bobby Starr

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## Biker News

I HAD A DISTURBING PHONE CALL FROM THE VP OF A SMALL ORGANIZATION IN MONTPELIER. HE SAID THE CITY COUNCIL HAD ON THEIR AGENDA, IN AN UP COMING MEETING, THAT THE TOY RUN CAUSED TOO MUCH NOISE IN THE CITY. I CALLED MEMBERS FROM UMV, AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, AND BUSINESSES IN THE MONTPELIER AREA TO COME TO THIS MEETING. WE MET AT CHARLIE'S O'S, AND PROCEEDED TO CITY HALL. THERE WERE ABOUT 25 PEOPLE WITH US ON THIS ISSUE. I SPOKE TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AND FOUND THAT SOMEBODY COMPLAINED ABOUT THE NOISE BETWEEN THE BUILDINGS ON MAIN ST. WE ASSURED THEM WE WERE DOING EVERYTHING IN OUR CONTROL TO KEEP THE NOISE DOWN.

MARK TOURVILLE ALSO SPOKE, AND EXPLAINED THE POLICE HAVE THE RIGHT TO TICKET ANYBODY THAT IS DOING ANYTHING ILLEGAL. THE CHIEF OF MONTPELIER PD AND SHERIFF HILL OF WASH. CO. ALSO SPOKE ON OUR BEHALF. THE COUNCIL WAS VERY UNDERSTANDING.

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED:

A MAN CAME UP TO TALK TO THE BOARD, CLAIMING HE HAD BEEN A BIKER OVER 30 YRS. AND HAD OWNED NUMEROUS MOTORCYCLES. AT FIRST I THOUGHT HE WAS UP THERE TO ENCOURAGE THE TOY RUN, BUT TO MY SURPRISE HE WAS THE ONE WHO MADE THE COMPLAINT ABOUT THE NOISE ON MAIN ST. I WAS DUMBFOUNDED! I COULDN'T BELIEVE A FELLOW BIKER WOULD TRY TO MESS WITH AN EVENT THAT HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR 22 YRS. ESPECIALLY WHEN IT IS FOR THE SHRIMPERS CRIPPLED AND BURNED CHILDREN AFTER HE SPOKE HE IMMEDIATELY LET THE ROOM.

THE END RESULT IS, WE HAVE TO APPLY FOR NOISE ORDINANCE PERMIT FOR OUR EVENT.

ONE HOUR...ONE DAY...ONCE A YEAR FOR THE CHILDREN..! JUST DO NOT UNDERSTAND SOME PEOPLE!!!!!! BE SAFE AND KEEP THE SHINY SIDE UP!!!!

*Donna*

■ **GOVERNOR VETOES MICHIGAN HELMET LAW REPEAL** For the second straight year, Michigan riders have successfully maneuvered a helmet law modification bill through their state legislature and onto their governor's desk and, for the second time, Governor Jennifer Granholm has vetoed the measure.

Motorcyclists had hoped that by adding certain amendments, such as pumping up the state's economy by charging \$100 per year for the right to ride helmetless, and by winning support from the state's top law enforcement group, they would convince Granholm to change her mind this time around.

But despite overwhelming support in the Legislature and endorsement of House Bill 4749 by the Michigan Association of Police Organizations, as well as the promise of an additional \$25 million annually pouring into the state coffers from freedom-minded riders, Granholm quickly dispatched the bill again citing safety concerns and insurance costs.

It would now take a two-thirds vote of both chambers of the state Legislature to override Granholm's veto, an option ABATE of Michigan and the Michigan Confederation of Clubs are looking into.

**OVER NEW YORK ROADBLOCKS:** The National Coalition of Motorcyclists announced that its New York attorney has sent a letter of intent to file a class action lawsuit against New York State Police and the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles in response to a series of discriminatory roadblocks targeting motorcycles en route to motorcycle related events.

After a roadblock was established on New York's 1-84 in October 2007, which singled out motorcyclists on their way to a Marcus Dairy Cycle Sunday in nearby Danbury, Connecticut, motorcyclists' rights advocates learned that Federal Grant money was to be used to fund police overtime to conduct these so-called "safety checks" at motorcycle events statewide.

Despite talks between DMV and representatives of NCOM, the AMA, ABATE of New York and other motorcycle rights organizations during the winter, roadblocks were also set up on 1-88 and the NYS Thruway targeting motorcyclists traveling to the American Motorcycle Jamboree, or AM-JAM, a 24-year old event held at the Cobleskill Fairgrounds, and again on 1-87 stopping riders traveling to Americade in Lake George, America's largest touring motorcycle rally. According to Robert "Prospector" Boellmer, the New England and New York representative of NCOM, AIM., Attorney Mitchell Proner of New York has given notice to the NY State Police and DMV that a class action suit will be filed in protest of the road checks being conducted on state highways during events that draw thousands of motorcyclists.

Boellmer told the Daily Gazette that the stops constitute harassment of cyclists and his group will fight them in court to halt the discriminatory roadblocks. He said the national coalition represents more than 1,000 motorcycle organizations across the country.

"ABATE of New York, Inc., expresses its opposition to New York State's burgeoning tactic of conducting highway roadblocks which divert only motorcyclists from the state roadway for the

purpose of conducting `safety checks: and hereby expresses its support of a class action initiative by the National Coalition of Motorcyclist against the NYS Police and the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles," said Timothy D. Werder, state president of ABATE of New York in an official press release issued by his organization.

LOUD PIPES SAVE (OFFICERS') LIVES: Over in Oakland they like it loud-so loud that all 45 of the Police Departments Harley-Davidson motorcycles have been equipped with shiny new tailpipes at a cost of \$500 apiece to rev up their roar. It seems the cops just didn't feel safe on toned-down bikes.

"There's an old motorcycle adage that you are heard before you are seen." Deputy Chief Dave Kozicki told the San Francisco Chronical, explaining the departments decision to toss the bikes muted factory- issued mufflers in favor of the high volume pipes. Oaklands cops have a long tradition of riding there Harley Davidsons with the modified, loader tail pipes, earning them the nick name "Rolling Thunder." But after and officer complained about a loss of hearing in others around town questioned whether the police force was violiting the

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT:

ORLEANS AMERICAN LEGION:

7:00PM

NOVEMBER 5,2008

EVEN THOUGH OUR MEETING ARE AT

PRIVATE CLUBS, ALL U.M.V. MEMBERS

ARE WELCOME!

DECEMBER MEETING AT:

AT THE HYDE PARK V.F.W.

7:00PM

DECEMBER 3,2008



(D).

We have tried to impress upon them the amount of money that is going out of State, to New Hampshire and Maine, because they have no helmet law. It is known as biker bucks. This is where bikers spend money in States that offer choice. This is real, and means real money!! In these economic times, this could mean a sizable amount of money that stays in our state! We are hoping that this gets their attention.

#### **WEB SITE**

Any posters or info that you send to our Web Site, Joe will post it as a PDF file, so you can download and print it.

Send info on runs and upcoming events to UMV Web Site or to us at pathere1@msn.com

Please send at least one month early so we can get it in newsletter. By the first of the month if possible, at the latest!

FYI: MY COMPUTER CRASHED, THAT IS WHY THE NEWSLETTER IS LATE THIS MONTH. SORRY FOR THE

DELAY, WE KNOW WE MISSED PUTTING IN A COUPLE OF RUNS. HOPFULLY NEXT MONTH ALL WILL BE WELL!!!

#### **HARLEY RAFFLE**

The deposit was made on the hall.

We do the clean up and they will waive the deposit on the clean up. Joe and Holly have agreed to cook the meal again, with some of us helping. The menu will be:  
Chicken & biscuits

Roasted Potatos

Coleslaw

Assorted Desserts

The tickets sales are going good. We have sold over 50 to date and still selling! We need to move 172 total, so contact all you friends and tell them to buy. Contact one of the UMV Officers!

# UMV

IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT IS DEDICATED TO MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS, SAFETY, EDUCATION, PRO MOTORCYCLE LEGISLATION & INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM. WE GAVE OUT 4 /\$500.00 SCHOLARSHIPS TO AREA SCHOOLS. WE ARE THE MOTORCYCLE SPONSOR OF THE SHRINERS TOY RUN. WE DO A POKER RUN THE FIRST SATURDAY OF JUNE WITH A RODEO & PIG ROAST COME AND BE A PART OF A GREAT ORGANIZATION!

JOIN UMV TODAY

\$15.00 PER PERSON

\$25.00 PER COUPLE

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

DEDICATED TO MOTORCYCLE SAFETY, EDUCATION & INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM,  
PROTECTION YOU RIGHT TO RIDE

UNITED MOTORCYCLIST OF VERMONT

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