

FREEDOM ISN'T FREE ! GET INVOLVED !



# ABATE of Northern Nevada



**Many Thanks to all  
Who Testified at Carson  
City or traveled to Carson  
City in support  
Of AB300.**



John Bland, President

April / May 2009

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This has been an intense couple of months. All of our information to amend Nevada's helmet law that we have acquired over the last six years was compiled, prioritized, sorted, and digested in preparation for passage of AB300 giving Nevada adults the freedom of choice.

It has been a grueling process but rewarding. ABATE of Northern Nevada members voted several years ago to proceed with fighting Nevada's helmet law and to become an aggressive state motorcycle rights organization. I can honestly tell you we are; and you deserve to be proud of it! It had become obvious that our state motorcycle organizations had become fragmented and that we would need to unite to have the necessary influence on legislators.

This is Dale Andrus and my third legislative ses-

sion as ABATE lobbyist. Each session we become more knowledgeable about the process. We are no longer intimidated by the atmosphere or formalities of the federal building that stands in the center of Carson City. We accept the responsibility to present the opinions and concerns of Nevada motorcyclists. Legislative politics can be invigorating at times but also disheartening. The passion for power is alive and well in Carson City.

All of Nevada's motorcycle clubs and organizations pulled together this session and became one unified voice in support of AB300. During the hearing held March 24, 2009 the teleconference room in Las Vegas was filled with over 100 motorcyclists in support of the bill, (thank you Bones and Southern ABATE) with only a handful opposed. The

conference room in Carson City was filled to capacity with supporters of the bill, only a few were present in opposition. Because of all the support we have received across the country, the legislative website opinion poll now ranks AB300 as the second most active bill introduced this session and there has been about 2000 bills introduced! We had some very articulate and knowledgeable speakers in support of AB300 during the Assembly Transportation hearing. Nevada being a tourist based economy, and the fact that Nevada is one of the hardest hit states by foreclosures, additional revenue was presented as one of the attractions to support AB300. Loss of freedom, false claims of "Public Burden" statistics, NHTSA statistics and more

were presented. The opponents of the bill were few but the typical large insurance companies, government safety bureaucrats, all articulate professionals paid to speak in opposition of freedom. They consisted of nurses and doctors from emergency rooms, trauma centers and Law enforcement. AAA Insurance representative Michael Geeser spoke in opposition again this year. I am personally requesting that we continue our boycott of AAA insurance until they stop this aggressive campaign against freedom of choice. Our strongest opponent was John Johansen, Impaired Driving Safety Coordinator for the State Office of Traffic Safety. We are frantically trying to get a transcript of his testimony so that we can rebut the many statistics he presented.

There are several people that deserve a special thanks for their efforts, they are:

First and foremost- Assemblyman Don Gustavson; Don has done everything he could to get this bill passed.

Jerry Stacy, Don Gus-

tavson's assistant:

Chuck Muth – Political consultant and author of many articles in support  
Dale Andrus – Lobbyist and speaker in support  
Vicky Andrus – Present and in support during hearing  
Mike Davis “Bones” – President of ABATE Southern Nevada and speaker in support  
Rick Eckhardt – President of Northern COC and speaker in support  
Bruce Arnold- National “Call to Action”  
MRF Reps – National “Call to Action”  
Norm Duperron, “Bear” -- Writing and being present and in support during hearing  
John Hobbs – Constitutionalist and speaker in support  
Les Brown- Veteran and speaker in support  
Connie Campbell – Present and speaker in support  
Warren Woodward – Statistics, Hawaii Freedom Fighter  
Marvin “Norm” and Jacque Orr – Present and in support during hearing  
Bud Jacobsen – Writing in support of AB300  
Jackie and Ted Suthers, (BOLT) – Speakers, neutral in position

Thank you to the Elko County Commissioners and the Elko Convention and Visitors Authority for the letters of support.

Sorry to those I forgot to mention, I know there are others.

Nevada motorcyclists appreciate the support we have received from all the freedom fighters across the country. United we are a force to be reckoned with! By the time you receive this letter Nevada will be well on its way to being a freedom of choice state or we will be planning our next action!

John Bland - ABATE NNV President/MRF Rep.

## Pool Tournaments/Bike Nite

**Only Two More Weeks to Get in on the Pool Tournaments before Finals On Saturday April 25th at 2:00.**

**Meet at the Telescope Lanes/Blind Onion at 6:00 P.M. on April 16th and April 23.**

**May is Motorcycle Awareness Month**

**CLASSIFIEDS:** Send emails to: [debodyna@frontiernet.net](mailto:debodyna@frontiernet.net)

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**Wanted:** I am currently putting parts together to build an older shovelhead. Here is what I am looking for: Hardtail or swingarm frame from 1966 to 1984, 5 gallon tanks, engine, trans, and whatever other parts I can get my hands on for an older FL style big twin etc. I appreciate the help. My cell # is 388-2811 if you have any questions please call me. Matt Lauborough



Photos of 2009 Flea Market!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!  
We made about \$1,000 on the Flea Market!!!

*Photos of the March  
ABATE Meeting*



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FYI:

Here's NRS 486.231. Protective headgear and glasses: Standards; when use required.

1. The Department shall adopt standards for protective headgear and protective glasses, goggles or face shields to be worn by the drivers and passengers of motorcycles and transparent windscreens for motorcycles.
2. Except as provided in this section, when any motorcycle, except a trimobile or moped, is being driven on a highway, the driver and passenger shall wear protective headgear securely fastened to the head and protective glasses, goggles or face shields meeting those standards. Drivers and passengers of trimobiles shall wear protective glasses, goggles or face shield which meet those standards.
3. When a motorcycle or a trimobile is equipped with a transparent windscreen meeting those standards, the driver and passenger are not required to wear glasses, goggles or face shields.
4. When a motorcycle is being driven in a parade authorized by a local authority, the driver and passenger are not required to wear the protective devices provided for in this section.
5. When a three-wheel motorcycle, on which the driver and passengers ride within an enclosed cab, is being driven on a highway, the driver and passengers are not required to wear the protective devices required by this section.

**9. How does a helmet get added to NHTSA's approved helmet list? DOT or NHTSA does not "approve" motorcycle helmets, thus, there is no list of "approved" helmets. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has the statutory authority to issue Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) applicable to motor vehicles and items of motor vehicle equipment, including motorcycle helmets. The law establishes a self-certification process in which the motorcycle helmet manufacturers certify that their products are in compliance with FMVSS No. 218, which establishes minimum performance requirements that the products must meet. NHTSA enforces the standard by randomly selecting and purchasing motorcycle helmets from the marketplace and testing to the requirements of the standard at independent test labs. (from NHTSA's website)**

Check Out these Websites:

[www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org)  
[www.bikernation.us](http://www.bikernation.us)  
[www.ldrlongdistancerider.com](http://www.ldrlongdistancerider.com)  
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[www.thereidworld.com](http://www.thereidworld.com)  
[www.dambikers.com](http://www.dambikers.com) (good jokes)  
[www.harleylovers.proboards56.com](http://www.harleylovers.proboards56.com)  
[www.CycleQuest.com](http://www.CycleQuest.com)  
[www.AMAdirectlink.com](http://www.AMAdirectlink.com)  
[www.motorcyclists-against-dumb-drivers.com](http://www.motorcyclists-against-dumb-drivers.com)

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

*March 2009 Meeting Photo*



**NEVADA'S PUBLIC SERVANTS**

Gov. Jim Gibbons  
State Capitol Building  
Carson City, NV 89710  
Phone: 775-684-5670

Sen. John Ensign  
U. S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
Phone: 202-224-6244  
Fax: 202-228-2193

Sen. Harry Reid  
U. S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
Toll-Free Phone:  
1 (866) SEN-REID (736-7343)  
Fax: 202-224-7327

State Sen. Dean Rhoads  
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(202) 225-6155

Assemblyman John Carpenter  
1091 Dotta Drive  
Elko, NV 89801  
Phone: 738-9861  
Fax: 775-738-4593  
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\*\*\*\*\*

Assemblyman Pete Goicoechea  
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Fax: 775-237-5100  
pgoicoechea@asm.state.nv.us

**ELKO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Elko County Courthouse  
571 Idaho Street  
Elko, NV 89801

Charlie Myers  
934-8118 or 738-4746  
charlesmyers@citlink.net

Sheri Eklund-Brown  
738-5612 or 738-4773

John Ellison  
738-6284

Demar Dahl  
752-3806

Warren Russell  
753-4723

**Participate in the High Mileage Contest. Send Connie your name and motorcycle mileage and \$5.00. Awards will be given at the end of the riding season.**



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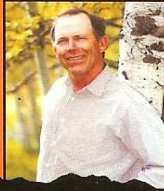
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**Welcome New and Renewed Members:**

Matt & Tina Lauborough, Paul & Val Reed  
 Jessica Halvorson  
 Thank you.  
 We're happy to have you on board.

**2009  
 Blessing of the Bikes  
 May 9th  
 Elko City Park  
 10:00 A.M.**



March 20, 2009

## LET THOSE WHO RIDE DECIDE

"I disagree completely when government says that because of the number of head injuries from accidents with motorcycles that (a person) should be forced to wear a helmet," declared Ronaldo Maximus (Ronald Reagan) many years ago. "I happen to think he's stupid if he rides a motorcycle without a helmet, but that's one of our sacred rights — to be stupid."

There's only one flaw I can find in Reagan's logic: It might not be so stupid to ride a motorcycle without a helmet after all.

The best argument against mandatory helmet laws is individual choice and freedom. Let those who ride decide. After all, this is the United States of America; supposedly the freest nation on the planet. But the personal liberty argument falls on deaf ears when it comes to mommy-knows-best nanny-staters. They're gonna protect us from ourselves whether we like it not.

Here's the problem: While helmets often can prevent having your skull cracked open, resulting in a major grey-matter spill on the sidewalk, the added weight of a government-mandated motorcycle helmet makes it more likely that you'll break your neck. Some choice.

The fact is motorcycle fatalities average 12 percent in all states whether helmets are mandated or not. Nevertheless, the mommy-knows-best crowd continues to advance the fallacious argument that folks injured in motorcycle accidents become a "public burden" for taxpayers. You know, like illegal aliens.

Sorry. Cheap shot.

Nevertheless, *Helmet Law Facts* by Warren Woodward completely blows this argument away: "According to the National Center for Health Statistics," writes Woodward, "approximately 1.16 percent of total U.S. Health costs are attributable to motor vehicle accidents, and the costs associated with the treatment of motorcyclist injuries account for less than 0.001 percent of total U.S. health care costs. Only a portion of that less-than-0.001 percent cost is attributable to un-helmeted motorcyclists, and the majority of that cost is paid by privately purchased health insurance. What remains, spread across the taxpayer base - which includes millions of taxpaying motorcyclists - is insignificant."

In addition, some 80 percent of all highway head fatalities occur in automobile accidents, despite the use of seat belts, which helps explain why most brain trauma deaths are in cars. So if safety and minimizing taxpayer exposure are the objectives, why aren't we mandating helmet use in passenger cars, hmmm?

Here's why: Because wearing a helmet restricts vision and impairs hearing, making it more difficult to hear a police siren or screeching brakes or a mother-in-law in the back yelling at you to slow down.

Would somebody please square this circle for me? If helmets make it more likely for an automobile driver to be in an accident, how does forcing a motorcyclist to wear one help prevent him or her from being in an accident?

Nevada Assemblyman Don Gustavson, R-Reno, has introduced a bi-partisan bill (AB 300) to repeal the state's mommy-knows-best helmet law. Gustavson's bill would allow helmet choice for motorcyclists 21 years or older who have completed an approved motorcycle safety course and have at least one year of motorcycle driving experience under their belt.

Continued from Page 8. **LET THOSE WHO RIDE DECIDE**

Standing in the bill's way will be Nevada State Sen. Dennis Nolan, RINO-Las Vegas. Not only does Nolan oppose repeal of the helmet law, he's the prime mover-and-shaker behind the use of revenue-producing red-light cameras, making failure to wear a seat belt a primary offense, a national ID card, tax hikes up the wazoo, and requiring children to use booster seats until they go to college or get married, whichever comes first.

There is no reason for any self-respecting, freedom-loving Nevadan to continue supporting this law. If the objective, as the nanny-staters would have us believe, is to make everyone safer rather than control our lives, why not just ban motorcycles (and bicycles and skateboards) altogether and lower the highway speed limit for automobiles to 25 mph?

Yikes! Better not give Sen. Nolan any ideas. The Legislature is still in session.

• *Chuck Muth, of Carson City, is president and CEO of Citizen Outreach and a political blogger. Read his views Fridays on the Appeal Opinion page*

## Annual Beatty Run May 15th, 16th, and 17th

Everyone needs to make their own reservations. I reserved a block of 8 rooms in Beatty. Please call the Stagecoach 775-553-2419 and tell them you are with ABATE of Northern Nevada to get one of the rooms in the block. They will put your name on the room and will take a credit card number to reserve it. I just need to make sure all of the rooms get used so I can release any that are not used so they can fill them otherwise. In Eureka call Margie at the Sundown Lodge 775-237-5334 she will also put your name on a room. Just let her know its for the night of May 14th and your with the motorcyclists from Elko. We are leaving Elko on May 14th after work.

My Dear Friend Thomas Jefferson,

I am afraid you would not recognize our current Republic and would even see fit to call it such. Perhaps the winds of change dictate that people do not deserve liberty and that governments are best suited to hold the bulk of authority. Through the ages we find government has not seen us fit rule ourselves let alone responsible for retaining prosperity so that we may thrive. We find ourselves not only at the mercy of the government to provide every essential to life but at their discretion to the monetary affairs of our households within the working class. Taxation has burdened our incomes and industry to the point of bankruptcy.

The meaning freedom of speech has been perverted to the extent where in many cases cannot be expressed as intended. Our right to defend ourselves from tyranny is now on the brink of extinction and we even find it in many cases unlawful to secure our homes. The laws of nature's god, nature, and humanity are all but forgotten. We find that even god and the establishment of churches are under attack. Politics and religion will be kept separate at all costs. The people have forgotten that many of you founders fought so hard to secure that right and to keep government from banning it. I am sure the government knows all to well the chronicle of history and that in defiance to the crown patriots incited dissent by encouraging politics to be preached from the pulpit.

I think you would agree that even the Federalists may be somewhat alarmed to the extent we pushed the dangers of federalism. If Alexander Hamilton saw our current constitutional monarchy with our elected dictator who holds more power than King George himself, he may have made some concessions to your Republican ideology. If only those who fought so hard for liberty endowed by their creator could see the amount of prosperity, authority, and responsibility that is thrust directly to the capitol city. Only to watch it slowly filter back to our communities greatly diminished by the time it reaches its goal. Perhaps if the Congress, Sons of Liberty, Thomas Payne, the Massachusetts Militia, General Washington, and his Patriots could see how easily we would be willing to give it all away, you would have only put in half an effort.

There is however a movement afoot, it is a return to the constitution and its essence. I have all of my hopes in the inherent nature of the people's willingness to be free but I am unsure if this change within us is quick enough. Only the dusty pages of history can tell this tale and in bold type I hope to see Common Sense, Rights of Man Revisited ([www.commonsenserevisited.org](http://www.commonsenserevisited.org)). Time will soon tell either the history of the enslavement to a new monarchy or the political revolution that will set us free once again. I can only hope that the essence of the constitution is refreshed and that in finding this spiritual connection to liberty, constitutional script blossoms with more meaning and purpose than before.

Your Humbled Friend,  
Posterity  
(Author: John Hobbs, Thanks John)

2009 ABATE Calendar of Events
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Jan. 2009

1/8 bike night  
 1/15 meeting  
 1/22 play pool/bike night  
 1/29 play pool/bike night

Feb. 2009

2/5 play pool/bike night  
 2/12 meeting  
 2/19 play pool/bike night  
 2/26 play pool/bike night

March 2009

3/5 play pool/bike night  
 3/12 meeting  
 3/14 flea market  
 3/19 play pool/bike night  
 3/26 play pool/bike night

April 2009

4/2 play pool/bike night  
 4/9 meeting  
 4/16 play pool/bike night  
 4/23 finale pool tournament  
 Laughlin River Run  
 4/30 bike night

May 2009

May is Motorcycle Awareness Month  
 5/7 bike night  
 5/9 Blessing of the Bikes/ABATE poker run  
 5/14 meeting  
 5/22 bike night  
 5/22, 23, 24,25 Run-a-Mucca  
 5/28 bike night

June 2009

6/4 bike night  
 6/11 meeting  
 6/18, 19, 20 Elko Motorcycle Jamboree  
 6/25 bike night

July 2009

7/2 bike night  
 7/9 meeting  
 7/16, 17, 18 ABATE summer run & rodeo  
 7/23 bike night  
 7/30 bike night

Aug. 2009

8/1-9 Sturgis Rally  
 8/13 meeting  
 8/20 bike night  
 8/27 bike night  
 8/29 Possible Ryndon Run and BBQ

Sept. 2009

9/3 bike night  
 9/5,6,7 Labor Day Campout, Idaho  
 9/11,12 Morrodders Car Show  
 9/5, 6, 7 Labor Day campout, Idaho  
 9/10 meeting  
 9/17 bike night

Oct. 2009

Start working on Christmas For Kids  
 10/1 bike night  
 10/8 meeting  
 10/15 bike night  
 10/22 bike night  
 10/29 bike night  
 10/31 Nevada Day

Nov. 2009

Make decisions on CFK  
 11/5 bike night  
 11/11 Veterans Day Parade  
 11/12 Meeting  
 11/19 bike night

Dec. 2009

Christmas For Kids  
 12/3 bike night  
 12/10 meeting  
 12/12 Parade of Lights  
 12/17 bike night  
 12/31 bike night

**FREEDOM ISN'T FREE ! GET INVOLVED !**

A.B.A.T.E. of Northern Nevada  
P. O. Box 1566  
Elko, NV 89803

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[debodyna@frontiernet.net](mailto:debodyna@frontiernet.net)

A.B.A.T.E.'s Website: [www.abatennv.org](http://www.abatennv.org)

**Christmas for Kids, Inc.**

Bill Hartsock – President  
Vicky Andrus – Vice President  
Connie Campbell – Secretary  
Jenn Hobbs – Treasurer  
ABATE of Southern Nevada: [www.abatesnv.com](http://www.abatesnv.com)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- A.B.A.T.E. Meeting: April 9th at Elko Trophy 6:00 P.M.

(A.B.A.T.E. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at 6:00 P.M.) We change the meeting place from time to time, so watch for emails announcing the place.

- Check the Website for upcoming events. [www.abatennv.org](http://www.abatennv.org)
- Bike Nite every Thursday. Pool Tournament at the Telescope Lanes every non-meeting Thursday until further notice. 6:00 P.M. to ????
- Up and Running: [www.nvabatetravel.com](http://www.nvabatetravel.com). If you need to book travel arrangements, do so through [www.nvabatetravel.com](http://www.nvabatetravel.com).
- Final pool tournament April 25th 2:00 P.M. Telescope Lanes. E-mail Deb at [debodyna@frontiernet.net](mailto:debodyna@frontiernet.net) If you'd like to list your event here.

**"The battle for bikers' rights is not about patches, parties or poker runs. We fight to protect the freedom and promote the interests of American motorcyclists ... to defend our right to choose our own modes of transportation, attire and lifestyle ... to deter and defy discrimination against us ... and to vanquish those who violate our rights or right-of-way."--Bruce Arnold**