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July 2021 Updates

Legislative Report

ABATE of Washington Continues On With Lane-Sharing Efforts

The surprise veto of Oregon's lane-sharing bill by Governor Brown, it has brought Washington's bill into sharper focus. Especially when the reason for the veto was the same one that Washington State Patrol has used repeatedly without any supporting data; that of it being an unsafe practice for motorcyclists. In the six years that ABATE of Washington has been working on the passage of a lane-sharing bill, the same reasons have been used to oppose these efforts by the WSP and the Washington Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC). Those reasons are, it is an unsafe practice for motorcyclists, and what seems to be their most effective reason, that Washington's drivers are not used to it, and therefore won't be expecting motorcycles to lane split. That by doing so, riders will startle drivers into sudden maneuvers including possibly swerving into the motorcyclist. [Keep Reading>>>](#)

[Read The Legislative Report](#)

State Coordinator's Report

MEMBERS,

The good news is that it appears the COVID restrictions are about over. ABATE OF WASHINGTON is ready to move forward again. Prayers for the families who were impacted by this pandemic. It had devastating results on our state. With job loss or sickness, everyone experienced some sort of setback. Time to move ahead.

Swap Meet: At this time, we have an event scheduled for Oct 3rd at the same location, Monroe Fairgrounds. We are already working on the event. The chairperson is Tina Lawson. She will have the phone set up by the time this goes to print HERE IT IS 253-320-0734

Spring Opener: After missing a year we are happy to announce we have a new location - Cascade Peaks Camp Ground [11519 Us Highway 12, Randle, WA 98377](#). We will be in the Meadow. This location has 135 RV sites and a very large flat area for tent campers, bike games, and vendors, all covered with grass. Looking forward to the new location. The event dates are June 23rd to 26th 2022. See ya there.

MRF: Looking for a leader for the State MRF position in Washington State. My obligation to ABATE OF WASHINGTON is more than enough for me . If you are interested please contact me or Mark Buckner, Markbuckner@msn.com 303-833-3195. He has loads of good info and would be very helpful to anyone who is interested in getting things moving in Washington state. I would also be willing to get that person booth space at our events and connect you with the legislators at the State capitol. CONTACT US FOR INFO.

The support ride for Grays Harbor Chapter was a very good day for ABATE OF WASHINGTON. Thanks to Robbi from the Olympia chapter for doing the pre-ride and setting it up. The ride down to Hoquiam was as good as it gets. Most of the time you head west from Olympia, you get rain. The ride was sunny and warm all the way. We had about 40 bikes and filled the VFW when we arrived. Folks at the VFW were impressed with our Meeting protocol. The new coordinator Pat and his officers held a good meeting. I have been getting reports back that the folks on the harbor are interested in what is happening. Thanks to all who showed up and made the ride a success.

Spokane Chapter also held a meeting that was very important to the survival of the Chapter. Kathy Bolton, the Chapter rep attended and helped keep the momentum going. They are on track and have a full set of officers. Great work Spokane.

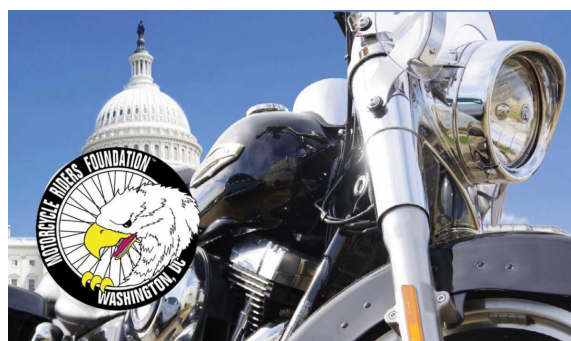
SCOTT ROBINSON
STATE COORDINATOR
ABATE OF WASHINGTON
509-250-2001

Motorcycle Riders Foundation

Highway Bill Passes First Hurdle in the House

Legislation authorizing roughly \$547 billion for highways and other surface transportation over five years advanced in a House panel, despite opposition from Republicans who objected to what they called Green New Deal climate initiatives.

The legislation (H.R. 3684) would authorize \$343 billion for roads, bridges, and safety, \$95 billion for passenger and freight rail, and \$109 billion for transit. It aligns with many of President Joe Biden's infrastructure priorities. Working into the wee hours on amendments, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee adjourned early Thursday after approving the measure on a 38-26 vote. Only Republicans Brian Fitzpatrick (Pennsylvania) and Jennifer Gonzalez-Colon (Puerto Rico) voted with Democrats in support of the bill. Included in the bill were three motorcycle-related priorities that also made it into the 2020 version of this same bill. [Keep Reading>>>](#)



[Read Full Article](#)

NCOM Biker Newsbytes

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

NCOM CONVENTION WELCOMES RIDERS TO AMERICA'S HEARTLAND

Mark your calendar now for July 23-25, and plan on joining hundreds of fellow biker's rights activists from across the country at the 36th annual NCOM Convention at the Holiday Inn Des Moines - Airport, located at 6111 Fleur Drive in Des Moines, Iowa.

Some of the nation's finest Freedom Fighters will address legal and legislative topics of concern to all riders, from helmet laws to anti-profiling to lane-splitting, autonomous vehicles, the fate of internal combustion and much more.

In the meantime, the National Coalition of Motorcyclists is requesting that MROs, motorcycle clubs, and riding associations submit the names of those members and supporters who have passed away over the past year, since last October's NCOM Convention in Indianapolis, so that we may honor their memories with the traditional "Ringing of the Bell" tribute to fallen riders during the opening ceremonies. Dedications should be e-mailed in advance to Bill Bish at NCOMBish@aol.com, or can be hand-delivered at the Convention to "Doc" Reichenbach, NCOM Chairman of the Board. [Keep Reading>>>](#)

[Read Full Article](#)

Public Relations

Hello everyone!

Hope everyone has been able to get some riding in. We have had a few State rides and many Chapter events. I encourage everyone to come support each other's rides and events which are posted on the Facebook State page, on the web page and in the newsletter. There are also Socials by many Chapters either monthly or weekly. Communications, Webmaster, Newsletter and myself are working together to get the information you provide us as Chapters to all members in an efficient way. With this being said, we are asking again that the person in charge of events for your Chapter send a pdf or jpg to PR1@Abate-WA.org only and the information will be distributed out from there.

Abate of Washington is working to get its events out to you earlier so you can plan accordingly in which we are hoping will increase participation. I am available for questions for helping you create your Chapter events by flyer or media if needed.

Let's bring back the community to ABATE and get everyone up and going!

Susan Carson
Public Relations



Events and Runs

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events. (click image to see larger)



ABATE OF WASHINGTON



BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

Saturday, July 17, 2021

Eagles Lodge 2485
115 N. Fruitland
Kennewick, WA 99336

Lunch is at 11:00 A.M.
Meeting starts at 12:00 P.M.

*Hosted by the Tri-Cities Chapter
Lunch will be provided at no cost*

Local Chapter Reports



East Pierce County Chapter Report

Greetings from EPCC!

It is getting warmer, and that means more riders! While this is ALWAYS a good thing, please remember to keep your eyes open, and be aware of things around you. Especially other drivers. There are so many that don't see our bikes, even though we are everywhere. Keep riding, and keep enjoying your freedom, and our brotherhood. Many events coming up in the next few months. I have been asked quite a few times about EPCC's Teddy Bear Run. It is still in the works, and we will get the final information on it out as soon as we can. I WILL note that it is NOT the last weekend in August this year, as EPCC will be Supporting Grant County's Run to the Desert that weekend. If you can, head over to Soap Lake and check it out. I had a wonderful time there last year. Keep the rubber side down, and catch you on the flip side!

Joe Cain
Deputy Coordinator



Gray's Harbor Chapter Report

(Who put the quarter in...again!?!)

WOW!!! What an awesome assembly of brothers and sisters.

There was not a single person there that didn't bring something to the table, information, support, suggestion, history, curiosity.

Curiosity? I have some thoughts and hope for this. I know members past and current are sitting on the fence and watching to see how this pans out. Is it going to be the next shit show? Are they going to represent the organization and its mission, which is ABATE? Are they going to have an arrogant attitude and not get along? I hope that you fence-sitters who are watching have seen what has happened in a short time since being reinstated by the state at the last BOD.

Business and financial affairs balanced and organized, meeting state requirements to be in good standing with the state, a place to conduct meetings, a newsletter, new member apps turned in promptly. If you or somebody you know has not got their card from the state, or is just fucking pissed and disgusted, or feeling ripped, off get ahold of me 360-310-0791. I will do everything in

my capacity to make it right. We have the chapter affairs in order. So, get off the fence and let's move forward. *Keep Reading>>>*



Elk Country Chapter Report

Greetings from Elk Country!!

WOW! I know we were all getting a little bit of cabin fever and needing to ride due to COVID, but I wasn't expecting the turnout that we had on the Mt St Helens Ride!! There wasn't a parking lot around that wasn't full of bikes, and the intersection and freeway offramps were backing up!! We figure between 1,200 and 1,300 bikes showed up from three states. One Hell of a turnout!! Now we are looking towards our 3 Pass Run on July 10th. It will leave the Chevron in Morton at 10 AM. But you better get there before then to draw the first card in the poker run. We will be going east over White Pass. Then running on the twisting roads on the south side of Clear Lake and Rimrock Lake before pulling back onto US12. We'll refuel at the Naches Chinook Center (10450 US-12, Naches, WA 98937) so if you want to join up from the east side, we expect to arrive there about 1PM. From there we will ride up Hwy 410 to Gold Creek Station, then end the ride at the top of Chinook Pass. We will pick the last card and pay off High and Low Hands there. Then we drop over Cayuse Pass and head home. Let's get out and ride, and hopefully, we will meet up on the road somewhere.

Brian Lange
Coordinator
Elk Country Chapter



Grant County

Grant County Chapter

Hope everyone is able to enjoying the sun! We have a lot of fun coming up. We have our yearly fundraiser selling fireworks in Moses Lake June 28 thru July 4. It is always a good time hanging out, BBQing and selling fireworks. This is our precursor to our 5th Annual Run to the Desert in Soap Lake. We will have live bands, food vendors, bike show for trophies, poker run, bike games, mechanical bull, non-food vendors and much more right next to the lake. There is RV and sites next to the park that is first come first serve, a beautiful RV Resort (Smokiam Resort) on the north end of the lake with teepee and cottage rentals, Notaras lodge, Soap Lake Inn and Masters Inn within walking distance next to the park. There are many local shops within a block of the event that are great to check out including a couple great restaurants. Our event is free admission but if you can bring a can or two of food, our event is supporting the local Soap Lake Food Bank.

We always have a great time and you can follow all updates on our event page on Facebook or our webpage, www.abategrantcounty.com.

Hope to see you all there!!

Susan Carson
Grant County Coordinator



Pacific County Chapter Report

Summer is here, and (dry) riding season is in full swing. Remember, vacation season is also here, and there are tourists and weekend warriors on the roads. They are often in such a hurry to have fun, that they don't see you.

We have started work on the campsite for our big Labor Day Camp-out. Last winter's ice storm made a mess.

We are starting earlier than usual, so it should work out fine. Hope to see y'all on the road!

Stay sharp and ride safe,

John Tschannen, Coordinator
Pacific County Chapter



Spanaway Chapter Report

First I want to say thank you to Spanaway Chapter members for stepping up and helping with the celebration of life for Billy De. The chapter helped with donuts at the cemetery and also paid for the meal at Rumors following the services at Fir Lane. Thank you to all that helped and made the service the best it could be. Thank you to those that attended. We have a large hole in ABATE that will be hard to fill. Rest in Piece Billy De you are loved and missed.

Plans are moving forward for a camp out in August. We are looking at a three day event starting Friday. More to come shortly on this event.

Get out and ride, enjoy the summer, spend some time with friends it's been a long time.

Andy McAfee
Coordinator



South King County Chapter Report

South King County Chapter has been enjoying our Thursday socials. We've even had the pleasure of other chapters joining us. We're hoping to get a break from the rain and get out and attend other chapter socials.

We're excited about our partnership with Jet City Harley Davison in Renton. Our chapter has been having our membership booth at their events and bike nights informing people about ABATE, signing up new members, and selling raffle tickets.



Tacoma Chapter Report

Hello from T-Town,

Hard to believe that by the time you read this report so many things have transpired. Several runs, events and meetings. The family camp out is over, the raffle has been held, the winners called and the prizes have been delivered. Happy to see things opening up more and more. It's also been good to get out and see our brothers and sisters. But never forget our fallen Brothers and sisters, gone but never forgotten.

More exciting news coming about our partnership with Jet City.

I hope everyone had a great time at the Family Camp out. I'm sure everyone had a great time seeing each other, laughing, and sharing stories. Congratulations to the winners of the prizes.

See y'all at ABATE of Washington Grant County Chapter Run to the Desert Rally at Soap Lake in August 27-29.

Ride Skillfully

Adalinda Lundt

Turbo

SKCC Coordinator



The Tacoma Chapter does not do a run in July, but the planning committee is working on a taco feed/auction fundraiser, watch for details. Our road cleanup is on hold till further notice due to funding. Even if we wanted to do this anyway there would be nobody to pick up the trash and no insurance to cover us. Speaking of road clean-up, our chapter is looking for someone to step up and replace Rob LaVergne who is stepping down after many years of using his personal van and coordinating this event. Thank you Rob from all of us in the Tacoma chapter, we really appreciate all you have been doing for ABATE. And for your support and most of all your time. I also want to thank Louise for sending articles to the newsletter and I encourage others to do the same. I would like to read some riding stories and or jokes. Other than that we will be out in support of as many rides, runs, and events as we can.

Till next time

Dan Barker,

ABATE Tacoma Chapter Coordinator

Key Peninsula Chapter Report

Greetings from the 'Pen!

It's Been a pretty busy month for us! We had our Sunday Fun Run chapter ride a few weeks ago and it was a great day on the road. We made some new friends from the Spanaway chapter who joined us for the day and it was great having them along and getting to know them a bit. Thanks Spanaway! We started at Hi Tides in Port Orchard and went around the Hood Canal with stops at Fat Smitty's, Model Tee, Deep Draft Brewing and ended at Empire Pizza in Port Orchard again. The stop at Deep Draft was fun as they had karaoke going on and several folks from the ride took a turn on the stage! Was pretty entertaining and no I didn't show off my "talents" nor will you ever have to endure me up there torturing you! My helmet was off to those who did and they were great!

We also represented Key Pen' at the Awareness Ride and then most recently the Chapter Support Ride out to Hoquiam for the Greys Harbor chapter meeting. That one was very cool in that there was no real agenda other than to provide moral support to that chapter in their efforts getting back on its feet which it appears they are well on their way to doing. The tacos the VFW post put together for us were yummy and on time! It was a good opportunity as well to ride with friends from Abate that normally we don't get to do but only see at various meetings so riding with these brothers and sisters from our Abate family was important and I look forward to doing that again soon.

Next up for us, and YOU are invited, is the Worlds Famous 9th Annual Key Peninsula Brewery Run. We are riding that one August 28th and raising money for the Key Center family Resource Center. We gave them over \$2300 last year and certainly want to top that this



year. All the usual biker games will be going down to support this effort and the final stop at Deep Draft Brewing in Gorst already has a band arranged to coincide with our arrival. If you aren't headed to Soap lake that weekend, come on over and ride with us. Until next time you ride safe out there and as always, Stay Cool!

Additional Tacoma Chapter Info

This past month had some unique events including the memorial service for Billy De and the support ride for Grays Harbor Chapter - both in which Tacoma was honored to have participated. The ECOMM meeting also took place on June 13. Some of the information to come out of this meeting include the possibility of adding QR codes to ABATE's materials and the creation of a new chapter. Also, the Position 2 Chapter Representative slot was filled - thanks and good luck to John Tschannen for stepping in to that position.

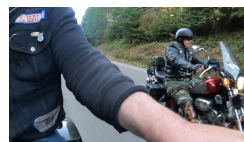
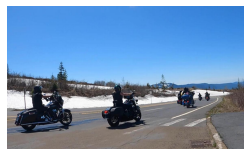
Now that June is over, hopefully so is the rain! This past June broke the record for rainfall. Let's hope for drier weather for our July events. Stay safe out there and enjoy some summer riding!

Louise Bentley,
LAO Tacoma Chapter

Need to reach a
specific chapter?

Chapter Contacts

ABATE In The Wind





What is an Outlaw Motorcycle Gang? And who is an Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Member?

Law enforcement is pretty casual about referring to clubs (or even groups of riders) as OMGs (outlaw motorcycle gangs).

But what is an "outlaw motorcycle gang" under Washington law?

A gang is a group of three or more people with a common name, sign or symbol that have the commission of criminal acts as one of the primary activities. RCW 9.94.030(12).

Even though law enforcement uses the term OMG as liberally as Bobby Knight uses profanity, we think that law enforcement would be hard-pressed to establish that any motorcycle club engages in criminal acts as one of its primary activities.

Do motorcycle clubs engage in criminal activities? No question. So does every other group with three or more members that uses a common name, sign or symbol. Churches? Check. Corporations? Check. Government agencies and subdivisions? Check.

[An interesting exception: bona fide non-profits are definitionally not gangs.]

How is primary used in the law? Is your primary residence the one at which you spend the most time? So if time is the unit of measure, do clubs spend the majority of their time riding or doing something else?

There's also the question of whether an individual is a "gang member" if they belong to a club that engages in criminal behavior. Can the actions of a few be used to define an entire group?

Here's the legal definition:

A member (or associate) is any person who actively participates in any criminal street gang and who intentionally promotes, furthers or assists in any criminal act by the criminal street gang. RCW 9.94.030(13).

It's pretty clear that just because you're a member of an organization that you can't be considered a gang member (without some other form of involvement).

So what's the solution? We think these issues are ripe for a lawsuit. Probably the best "test" case would be where law enforcement refers to a club that clearly isn't a gang as an OMG or a law-abiding brother as a gang member.



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DID YOU KNOW?

- We also represent people hurt in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.
- We're really selective about medical malpractice cases because the out-of-pocket costs are huge (it's not uncommon for them to push \$250,000) and it's important to us that our clients end up net-positive at the end of their case.
- We've recovered over \$50 million for our clients.

MIKE MYERS



mmyers@myers-company.com

SAMANTHA LIN



slin@myers-company.com

- Mike has been helping injured bikers for over 25 years.
- Mike has changed the way personal injury cases are presented in Washington. One of the main (and most enjoyable) parts of his job is figuring out how to use images (rather than words) to explain how clients have been hurt and what they have lost.
- Mike has broken his hand, both wrists, great toe, coccyx and pelvis. He's had his hip and aorta replaced.
- Mike knows what it's like to deal with injuries and physical limitations and how they impact the whole family.

- Sam has been helping injured bikers for over 10 years.
- Sam grew up in Spokane. She opened our Spokane office in 2020 because it's important to her to provide full coverage for riders in Eastern Washington.
- Sam has held almost every possible title at Myers & Company including intern, summer associate, paralegal and attorney.



MYERS & COMPANY
MOTORCYCLE ATTORNEYS

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Failing to Yield and Finding Coverage for Injured Riders

Washington State Patrol's PSA

Washington State Patrol recently issued a reminder to drivers to be aware of motorcyclists following an uptick in recent motorcycle crashes.

WSP explained that an overwhelming majority of motorcycle wrecks involve drivers failing to see motorcycles.

WSP's reminder was a nice PSA but we've known for a long time that drivers often fail to notice motorcycles.

Drivers Failing to Yield to Motorcycles

A lot of motorcycle wrecks are caused by the other driver failing to yield. Frequently these drivers are entering the highway from a private road or driveway.

Here's the law:

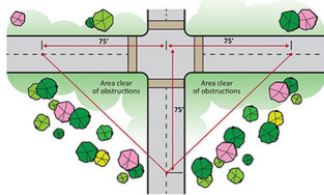
The driver of a vehicle about to enter or cross a highway from a private road or driveway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles lawfully approaching on said highway.

Some of these wrecks are entirely the result of driver inattention. But most are the result of several factors.

The Sight Triangle and Finding Coverage for Injured Riders

Unless the at-fault driver has millions of dollars of insurance, it usually makes sense to investigate whether there were other factors (besides driver error) involved and other sources of coverage (besides the at-fault driver's liability insurance) available.

There's something called the "sight triangle" that refers to a driver's ability to see oncoming traffic. Clear sight triangles are areas next to intersections and driveways where a driver needs to be able to see when turning. Areas within clear sight triangles must be kept free from obstructions. If the sight triangle is blocked or obstructed there are going to be wrecks.



We've recovered on behalf of riders from homeowners who have let their landscaping grow too high and businesses that haven't maintained safe driveways for their customers.

If you know someone who's been in a bad wreck have them give us a call. We're going to be able to package their claim in a way that maximizes value and identify all potential sources of insurance coverage to make sure they get paid for what they have lost.



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Insurance Rundown

Maybe not a fun fact. But an important one:

More than 70 percent of drivers in Washington are underinsured. Some don't have any insurance. Many don't have enough.

The minimum liability limits in Washington are \$25,000 per person and \$50,000 per accident. They haven't been raised since the 1980s.

Knowledge is power. It allows you to make the right decisions for you and your family. (Knowledge is a cornerstone of self-determination...the polar opposite of totalitarian enactments.)

Here's some basic but important information about the main types of insurance coverage.

Liability Insurance

In the last couple years Washington law changed. Liability insurance is now required for motorcycle riders.

Your auto policy won't provide coverage for you when you're riding your motorcycle. You need to purchase a motorcycle-specific policy.

The law only requires \$25,000 in coverage. But that's grossly inadequate. The minimum you need is \$1,000,000.

That's what you need to protect your assets. That's what you need to make sure that there's enough money to pay for someone else's care. That's what you need for yourself if you get hit by an underinsured driver.

Purpose/Benefits of Motorcycle Liability Coverage

It's pretty rare that collisions with motorcycles cause injuries to occupants of cars or trucks.

But passengers and pedestrians are vulnerable.

(If you get into a wreck that's your fault, passengers and pedestrians can make claims against you.)

Buying liability insurance puts you on the right side of the law. It also has several other benefits.

1. Liability coverage provides asset protection. (But you have to buy enough coverage. More on that below.)
2. Liability coverage provides money for friends and family who get hurt because you made a mistake. Everyone makes mistakes. Who are we most likely to hurt? The people we care most about: passengers riding on the back of the motorcycle, friends riding next to us in the pack, etc.
3. Liability coverage is kind of like the golden ticket: It allows you to purchase uninsured motorist (UM) and underinsured motorist (UIM) coverage. In Washington you can only purchase UM/UIM coverage if you have liability insurance and can only purchase UM/UIM up to the same amount of your liability coverage. If you're riding a motorcycle, UM/UIM is the most important kind of coverage to have.

Personal Umbrella Protection

A lot of people want more coverage than they can buy through a standard motorcycle policy. So they buy what's called a Personal Umbrella Policy (PUP).

(continued on next page)

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