

Letter to the Editor/Column

by Dave Zien

Universally considered the ultimate motorcycle Freedom Fighter movement in the world, the Wisconsin legacy in the 1970's, 1980's and until now - is unprecedented, unequalled and perhaps unmatched. Three major movements were being inspired at once. Some individuals led coalitions for all three.

Major revelations will be made on January 12, 2013 at 10:00 AM at the Eagles Club in Marshfield, WI. The inside track, behind the scenes and beneath the media radar screen will be unleashed.

Tony "Pan" SanFelipo, founder of Abate of Wis. (Association of Brotherhood against Totalitarian Enactments) and myself will lead discussion. A Biker Summit will evolve from 3-5PM. Major announcements and displays include:

1. Abate of WI and Better Bikers Assoc. (BBA), History and Perspectives.
2. American Freedom Warrior Foundation, Inc.
3. Miracle Mountain Motorcycle type Monument.
4. Two scripted movies seeking production; Legends - The Mystique and Heritage of Harley-Davidson. Homeowners Assoc. Both movies prominently capture small bits of Governor Tommy Thompson's stellar career.
5. American Motorcyclists Tribute.
6. 157 stone monuments, flags and poles dedicated to Bikers at Wisconsin major Veteran displays.
7. Exceptional Facts & Feats inspired by the Freedom Fighter Biker Movement.
8. TBA.

I.)Numerous large-scale rallies started in 1975. The Wisconsin mandatory helmet law was repealed in 1977; then vetoed by the Governor and overridden by both houses of the Legislature. No other state has done this!

Abate of Wisconsin and the BBA spearheaded coalitions of 100's of clubs and 1000's of individuals. In September 1977, the largest motorcycle rally in the world saw 50,000 at the State Capitol in Madison. Colorful, charismatic and creative; we even picked up our own garage. Yet effigies were hung on the Capitol lawn.

Bonfires of burning helmets raged in Madison. - A commanding message was sent!

Bikers worldwide are now training themselves "to help others" in First Aid; in a movement called Accident Scene Management (ASMI). Only motorcyclists are able to penetrate massive traffic jams by riding the highway shoulders, ditches and medians. Police cars and ambulances will be stopped.

In the case of massive natural disasters, chemical, biological, nuclear war or total interruption of telecommunications - Bikers could be the heroes of future society.

II.)Starting in the early 1970's, Vietnam Veteran activists, many of them Bikers, helped pave the way to make Wisconsin the best of all states in providing deserved entitlements for Veterans and their dependents. The Vietnam Veterans Advisory Council (VVAC), Wisconsin Assoc. of Concerned Veterans Assoc. (WACVO), Wis. Vets Outreach and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) paved the way.

Many of them were combat Veterans with a bone to pick, a score to settle and hostility to unleash. "For those who have served, suffered and sacrificed - the sights, sounds and stench of war, are as real as if only yesterday!" Infected with survivor's guilt and what we now know as PTSD, they sought retribution and revenge. Obsessed with serving Veterans and their loved ones; they could never do enough!

At the VFW State Convention in 1984, the Agent Orange Resolution brought to Committee by Gary Wetzel (Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient) and I, was defeated. The resolution demanded action by Congress.

We refused to replace the word demand with Request. With fierce floor debate, demand stayed in and was passed on the floor both at State and the National Convention in Los Angeles just 6 weeks later!

The VFW got out front in making sure Agent Orange, which contains dioxin, the most poisonous substance known to man was properly recognized. Now 14 mal-adies are service-connected, with dozens more being studied.

III.)Infiltrating the Legislative process, giant strides of success were evolving into the personal protection movement.

Passed into law:

1. Preemption, no local unit of government can pass a law restricting firearms more than the State.
2. Constitution Amendments: Right to Keep and Bear Arms.
3. Right to Hunt and Fish.
4. Range Protection
5. Personal Protection Act/Concealed Carry

Those at Marshfield on January 12, 2013 - will live the legend and love the legacy. Books are being written, two movies are scripted and a Discovery channel Documentary is being prepared since July. Three Freedom Fighter nostalgia, introspection and interpretative must not be hoarded - future generations deserve that it be shared! Get ready to get the hair on the back of your neck raised, because it is going to happen! Red-blooded American Patriotism is at its finest!

God Bless You! "Ride to Live, Live to Ride!"

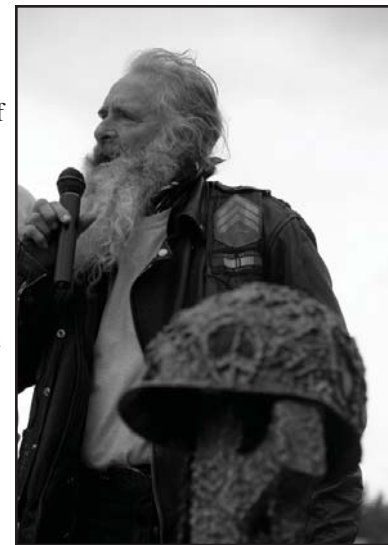
Dave Zien

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Million Mile Motorcycle Man

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This piece was written back in 2013. But it does bring awareness of what can be accomplished if we work together.



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