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The following may or may not be the view of the Free Riders Press staff and/or writers.
Ya, whatever, It's what's on my mind.

You will be seeing in this issue that you are needed to step up big time and start getting involved in what rights you believe in for yourself. But you also need to look at a larger picture on issues that may not directly affect your viewpoint now, but could come full circle and bite you in the ass if it proceeds.

There are many issues that are of concern to bikers that may not be of concern to a non rider. The helmet law that has been already threatened to be brought back by a couple of Wisconsin lawmakers if the elections go their way in fall. The insurance companies for their discrimination on policy holders that engage in legal activities like riding a bike, ATV, horse, bicycle etc. In fact if we're not careful we could start seeing clauses on our policies that could include climbing a tree, swimming in a pond or taking a walk when the temperature is below a certain degree. Sound silly? Think about it. Anyone of these could realistically happen if the lawmakers and Insurance companies are not held accountable for their actions/policies. Think it strange? What are insurance companies in business for? To make money, right. Well if they can place certain activities in place so they don't have to pay out monies for, woolah, more profits.

Is this picking on Insurance companies exclusively, not at all. We should pick on anybody that does a negative in the lives of Brothers and Sisters or anybody. Basically, we should all be equal opportunity annoyers. This means that we should fight for things that are done to us and things that don't directly effect us.

How many rights/liberties are we going to have to lose before the masses will stand and say to those intruding on us individually, STOP, TURN AROUND and DON'T LET THE DOOR HIT YOU ON THE WAY OUT. Don't tell me to do one thing and not another. Don't say this activity is illegal but this one is ok. We as people need and I think want to take our own lives and behavior into our own hands. I want the government in my life as little as possible. In fact I want someone to tell me that they disagree with me instead of having the government pass a law telling me what to do. Get involved and don't sit on the sidelines watching yourself being tore down a little bit at a time. We as a country should be standing up proud and tall as Americans and telling our lawmakers F**k You. You work for me, your not in office to organize my life and make sure I am safe from harm. When will WE stand and shout "I am an adult, and I don't want to be discriminated against. I want only what's coming to me. I want to be able to do anything that is legal anyway I see fit, as long as noone else gets hurt in the process."

I would like to see the biggest turn out of voters Feb 19th in Wisconsin and Feb 5th in MN and IL that has ever turned out. We should all be irrate with what's going on around us. Vote for who you want. But let's ALL stand and be heard!! And that's the way I see it!!

Ok, now that I got that out of my system, we can now return to our regularly scheduled programming....

Brother's and Sisters Lost

David Byron Cowan "Chopper Dave" age 60 passed away Sat. Dec 8, 2007 after a short battle with cancer. Dave was born May 17, 1947 in Springfield, MO. Chopper Dave was a sound engineer by trade and mechanic by hobby. He was also an avid motorcycle enthusiast, having had several motorcycles including Harleys, Triumphs and customs. His current ride was featured on the cover of the May 2005 issue of the "Free Riders Press". Dave was just a plain "good shit", always willing to lend a hand or an ear to bend.

Survivors include Daughter Emily Cowan, Step Daughter Shawna Goodall, Grandchildren Taylor and Grace, Sister Susan V. Lamkin Cowan, Dad Dorwin F. Lamkin as well as a large extended motorcycle family. A memorial was held on Sun Dec. 16 at Bobs Java Hut in Minneapolis. A burial is planned this spring in Marshal, MO. Dave's family and friends would like to thank the staff at V.A.M.C. hospital for their extraordinary care during his illness.



ABATE of Wisconsin
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Meet this month's Next Generation Riders.



Matt M.



and Hailey B.

If you have a picture of your Next Generation Rider, feel free to send it in to me. Who knows it just might kick start a Hollywood career for them. Send those pic's to preacher@freeriderspress.us or mail to 4500 Hwy 66, Stevens Point, WI 54481

Trivia, Trivia, Trivia

The answer to last month's trivia question is 1894, Hildebrand & wolfmuller

In 1894, the Hildebrand & Wolfmüller was the first motorcycle that was available for purchase. This is in contrast to Gottlieb Daimler's Reitwagen of 1885 which actually only served as an experimental applica-

tion for the engine and was not manufactured in a series let alone developed further.

Technical Specifications of the Hildebrand & Wolfmüller of 1894: Patent of 20 January 1894, No. 78553: 2 Cylinder four-stroke engine, 1488cc, Bore and stroke: 90 x 117mm, Ax. 2.5HP at 240rpm. Weight ax. 60kg and a maximum speed of ax. 40km/h. The Motorbike featured a water-cooled engine and a hollow tube frame, both of which were well advanced for the time. The rear wheel was driven by pistons similar to those in a locomotive, and used heavy rubber bands (one visible in the photograph, horizontal and running low down towards the rear wheel) to provide a return impulse rather than rotational inertia (as of a flywheel).

Only a few hundred examples of this model were ever built. Apart from the high purchase price, technical problems such as the absence of a clutch prevented the bike from becoming a commercial success. The venture ended up as a financial failure for both Wolfmüller and his financial backer, Hildebrand. Now wasn't that easy?

Here's how to play. I give you a question supplied to me by PIPEz. When you have the answer, e-mail it to trivia@gmaxpro.com and around the 10th we will post the answer on www.gmaxpro.com/FREE-RIDERS-TRIVIA web page. From the right answers we will draw a winner. These folks will win products and items that are donated from different advertisers and businesses. Sound easy enough? Lets get to it!!!

Which company's motorcycle design was used by 4 four other companies to produce their own model? And for the bonus point name them and the models. (Hint: Post WWII) **Remember: e-mail answer to e-mail it to trivia@gmaxpro.com**

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"Bingo's Downed Biker Fund"

If you have a Brother or Sister down and would like to get them the Free Riders Press, NO PROBLEM, be glad to do it but it does cost money. A lot of people help out by donating some coin. We here will do what we can, but with everybody giving what they can, we will make it go a long way. We all know somebody that's down, and anything would be greatly appreciated.



Send to:
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