

The U.S. is Always Right

by Mike Coon

Now before you get all bent out of shape let me explain. I'm not concerned with your political view but I am concerned with your patriotic display. Every season when the bikes start to come out I just cringe, not because motorcycles are on the road again, but because of the riders lack of knowledge in the proper display of the American Flag.



When I say the U.S. is always right, I mean the U.S. flag. The American flag is always flown on it's own right, the right side of the vehicle as seen from the rear. Your right when operating the vehicle. I don't care if you have 10 flags, the U.S. IS ALWAYS RIGHT. The one exception to this is when the U.S. flag is flown in the center of several flags. If and when the U.S. flag is flown center it must be flown higher than the other flags, if not, the U.S. flag must be flown on the right side and only fly one U.S. flag when displaying several other flags.

The show of patriotism is very important and I encourage everyone to display our flag, but please do so properly. If you see someone displaying the flag improperly please help me by politely correcting them. I must warn you, the most common argument you will get is, (When I walk in a room where the flag is displayed, it's on the left). The statement is true, but if you go to the back of the room and turn around the flag will be on your right, Remember, the U.S. IS ALWAYS RIGHT.

May you and your flag have a great riding season.

Take Pride in your Flag

As I have ridden around my hometown area in the past few weeks, I have taken pride to see so many American flags flying. It is only upon closer inspection that I see that a high percentage of these flags are weathered and torn. Others are touching buildings, hung up on Christmas decorations or branches.

These distressed flags are not only at residences but also in front of a fire station, municipal buildings and at memorials that are cared for by the city. They are in front of businesses all around town, including stores selling American flags.

We all know U.S. flag etiquette states that no flag should touch the ground. The flag should not be allowed to come in contact with other objects while being displayed, either.

Etiquette also states when a U.S. flag is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should be destroyed by private burning. Since there are ordinances against open fires, there is a mailbox across from the Portage County Courthouse on Church Street by the entrance to the parking lot where old flags can be placed for proper disposal. Another mailbox is in front of the VFW in Plover.

If you are responsible for the flag at your residence or place of work, please take the time to see that it is in condition worthy of display. If it isn't, please see that it is replaced. If it can or does come in contact with other objects while on display, please correct the problem.

When a person, business or municipality decides to fly this country's flag they also take on the responsibility to display it correctly.

By the way, for those who didn't learn or don't remember the flag rules, they can be seen at: <http://www.usflag.org/uscode36.html>. Take pride in your country and its symbol.

Floyd Serns - Stevens Point

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