

## Be sure to let our advertisers know you saw their ad in the Free Riders Press

*Continued from page 20*

Well, their "not for profit" trade group proudly touts that it burns up \$20 million in revenue (yearly?) and will happily relieve your company of \$700+ bucks a year (or more, depending upon your annual gross sales) while they hand out meaningless press releases on cheap paper run through a second hand copy machine, feigning indifference to your rights while working diligently behind the scenes to actually screw you over. Again, leaving the real freedom fighting to someone else, mainly, YOU. I'm sure that \$20 mil is doled out in salaries, the trademarking of common phrases and exorbitant lawyering fees, because they certainly aren't spending it on motorcycle awareness or high quality paper.

Rant to the aforementioned entity; You guys DON'T own rider training, so get over yourselves. Stop bullying state training programs and stop trying to make MORE money by selling books on how to ride safe. The new "Guide to Motorcycling blah blah blah" is only \$14.95 at Wal-Mart® but, whoah, I just checked the "industry council" website and somebody dropped the price! It WAS a complete rip off at over \$25 bucks. Whatever. The industry PAYS them to do this sorta thing and they turn around and sell it to us? If they REALLY cared, those materials would be totally free, after all, the manufacturers ARE paying for that, aren't they? If you were a TRUE not for profit, you'd give up your yearly salary and become a humble "volunteer" for the betterment of the sport, like the rest of us. You know, the ones with souls.

A lot of activists like to hear themselves talk, but rarely do they propose tangible solutions. Well, I'm a new breed, I actually have a solution; Support those who support the sport. If your local shop sprung \$125 to be an ABATE Business Member, that's someone who truly believes in our cause, and someone we need to fight for. We all need to spread word within the community when we find a mom and pop shop that truly cares about riders.

That also means BUY STUFF. Give 'em some business and let 'em know we love 'em. All the others out there who merely talk a good game but don't have a genuine or sincere interest in the future of our community, the ones with the slick attitudes out to make a quick buck, those who don't really ride and don't really give a ratt's-ass about rider's rights or the politics of it all while riding their shiny bikes by you without so much as a wave while you're broken down on the side of the road? To them I say, "Oh well."

After all, that's the line they've been giving us for years as we've pleaded for their

help. Turnabout is fair play and the end time is near. This goes double for groups who prefer to remain non-political in the interest of keeping things hunky dory. I'm in this for life, and I have a serious problem with people who leech off other people's sacrifices then whine about things that oughta be changed. The bottom line here is, your rights are no longer MY responsibility. If you want to ride free, it's time for YOU to get involved. If you don't want to step in it as deep as I like to, you can do your patriotic part by simply stopping by an ABATE Business Member and saying "thank you" by spending some green. After all, they're the folks who truly care, and are willing to put their money where your rights are, and they deserve our support. I'm a firm believer in capitalism and I don't have a problem with Wal-Mart® or big corporations if they can outsmart us from our money, but the last time I checked, it's still the mom and pop shops who are footing the bill for your rights in California, because you just can't put your rights on layaway at Wal-Mart®. Not yet, anyway.

By the way, wanna see the COOLEST riding toy for your 3 year old this year?

Forget the "Big Wheel"! You gotta see the "Emerald Flame Chopper" at Wal-Mart®! Visit [www.walmart.com/catalog/product.do?product](http://www.walmart.com/catalog/product.do?product). Of course, it's made in Communist China, but I'm not supposed to talk politics here, somebody might be offended.~splatt © 2006 splatt. Reproduction permitted with attribution. [www.bikernation.us](http://www.bikernation.us)

**SOLDIERS FOR JESUS**  
M.C.  
**MID WEST CHAPTER**  
BELOIT, WI  
608-363-8611  
[WWW.SOLDIERSFORJESUSMC.COM](http://WWW.SOLDIERSFORJESUSMC.COM)

**Country Trailers**  
Fiberglass Motorcycle Trailers  
Edward Denman  
129 E. North Street (County Hwy V)  
DeForest, WI 53532  
608-846-5363 or toll free 866-365-5286  
Fax: 608-846-2028 e-mail: [trailers@ctis.com](mailto:trailers@ctis.com)  
[www.countrytrailers.net](http://www.countrytrailers.net)

**Osbornes Pro Street**  
Full Bike Showroom & Retail Store  
9051 Hwy 13 South  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494  
Store Hours: Mon - Fri 9-5  
Bikes On Display As Well As Custom Designed Parts, Clothing and Accessories  
Visit Us On the Web: [www.opshd.com](http://www.opshd.com)  
Phone: 715-325-6464

**June 16th, 17th, 18th 2006**  
**Run to the Hills 2006**  
MOTORCYCLE RALLY  
PARK X HILL CITY, MN

Rally Weekend Costs:  
\$25 per person  
\$45 per couple  
Must be 21 years of age to attend

Live Entertainment:  
ParkChop 3-1 on Friday  
Sonik Erry 4-8 Saturday  
Touched 9-1 Saturday

Rally Admittance Includes:  
Tent camping, Live entertainment/music, Adult games, Bike show entry

Quadna Resort offers:  
Hotel Lodging & RV Hook-ups  
For reservations call 800-422-6649