

Letter to the Editor:

Follow-up to "Warranty ruling irks riders"

As your former State Senator, a Marine Corps Combat Veteran and as many of you know an avid fan of our State's largest profitable corporation Harley Davidson, I am offering an update and a note of thanks. Even an avid fan, can disagree with a corporate 'policy statement.' Consequently, what has transpired since Harley's External Communication Director issued a statement in May alleging that drag created by the American, and Marine Corps flags was the case of damage to my new vehicle's drive train is that Harley agreed to a formal detailed inspection of my Trike.

We deserve to thank Harley Davidson's Principal Engineer, Marty Hageman. Unlike the badger in our State Seal, Mr. Hageman came from the Harley's corporate sheltered burrows in Milwaukee on September 19, 2014 to examine my 2014 Harley Davidson Tri Glide Ultra. He and his crew inspected in detail all the parts that had been replaced but were denied warranty coverage.

They placed cameras on my tank and on me and had me ride for 10 miles, three different times. Recorded was how I shifted with the handicapped adaptation that was installed on my Trike by Harley Davidson when I purchased the vehicle.

The camera mounted on the tank was to record the distance the 23 inch piece of aircraft aluminum travels when I shift. Harley Davidson's Principal Engineer truly understands our State Moto, and State spirit, "Forward."

Mr. Hageman replaced my flags, and since one of the flag staff's was missing a pin, he had the Service Manager re-drill the flag staff and replace the missing pin. Mr. Hageman made sure the flags and their mounts were secure, then had bushings replaced that wore over time and mileage; a common problem. He had hardware tightened that, as we all know, vibrates loose from mere use. His professionalism and Wisconsin spirit were never more evident that when he offered to replace the heated handle bar grips, stating "just give them my card."

It is my hope that with all the information and computations Harley's engineers can develop mechanically sound devices for the handicapped, and that they take what they are learning to improve their product, to better serve their customer base. Harley riders are unique, in that we are one very large family. Even the Harley 'Wannabees' consider themselves relatives.

I thank, Harley's Principal Engineer Martin P. Hageman for recognizing that "Patriotism is as much a virtue as justice, and is as necessary for the support of societies as natural affection is for support of families." Corporate Harley Davidson has agreed to respond with the findings of this exploration in approximately thirty days. So now we wait to see if Corporate Harley Davidson who has reaped the blessings of freedom, will undergo the fatigues of supporting it. My special thanks to Virgil Wolf of Sauk Prairie Harley Davidson for allowing us the use of his dealership, and to Don Zander, his Service Manager. He, Wolf and their staff are truly heart and soul Bikers.

For the record: My 2014 Harley since the 'flag-clutch' repair from May 11-June 3 has been absolutely trouble free. For nearly 27,000 miles, not a single heart-beat missed. The handling, brakes, power is wonderful! The handling, brakes, power and stereo are wonderful! Lots of waves and salutes to those flags - still flying!

God Bless You

Dave Zien

Former State Senator

Million Mile Motorcycle Man

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Gone 42 years, a 1954 Harley-Davidson Finally Goes Home
Bike Stolen in 1972, Destined to Australia is Intercepted at LA/LB Seaport

LOS ANGELES-U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Outbound Enforcement Team officers at the Los Angeles/Long Beach (LA/LB) seaport, in partnership with California Highway Patrol (CHP) investigators and National Insurance Crime Bureau special agent, intercepted a stolen 60 year-old 1954 FL Harley-Davidson Hydra-Glide motorcycle, destined to Australia. CBP seized it on September 9 and turned it over to CHP for further investigation and return to its rightful owner.

1954 Harley Davison Stolen 42 years ago Recovered by CBP in Los Angeles.

The bike features a trumpet style horn and a 50 years medallion on its front fender, denoting Harley-Davidson's 50th anniversary.

In great condition, valued at \$24,000, the now yellow bike, was green when it was stolen 42 years ago on March 4, 1972. It was taken from the backyard of a police officer's residence in Charlotte-Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. He passed away on October 7, 2010, nearly four years ago to this day.

His oldest son, Edgar Howard Johnson, Jr., is very excited about its return and said, "My Dad would be tickled to get it back if he was still alive. This is so great; absolutely amazing; so wonderful. I remember my Dad picking me up from school with it one time. When the kids asked me if I was going to ride on that, I told them I sure am. I miss my Dad so much. We used to talk once every week. He's with me in my heart. This is like a piece of him is coming back home."

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is the unified border agency within the Department of Homeland Security charged with the management, control and protection of our nation's borders at and between the official ports of entry. CBP is charged with keeping terrorists and terrorist weapons out of the country while enforcing hundreds of U.S. laws.

Sent to me via e-mail , found at www.cbp.gov

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Bike Stolen in 1972, Destined to Australia is Intercepted at LA/LB Seaport



Stolen Harley Davison 50th Anniversary Seal

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