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Free All Brothers Behind Bars...

Editor: Mike Davis SFFS...

Sometimes it is hard to decide which side of the fence to be on... But to straddle it will just make your balls hurt...

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**SOS MC LiL Paul & his wife Lynn** from *North Dakota* for his \$ 25.00 a month...  
**Michigan SteelHorse Riders MC Cappy, Chino, Defender, & Q** donates \$ 25.00 a month...  
**SOS / Silent Thunder Clubhouse** in Fargo, North Dakota makes a Great donations each month...

**Editor's Note:** I have received multiple Donation recently and will list ALL of them in the Next Newsletter...

But, I Do WANT to THANK Each and Every One of the Donors!!! Thank you, Love and Respect, Mike SFFS Editor...

In Memory of **Northwoods Rider Butch** from *Minnesota* who passed away after a battle with Cancer... May Butch R.I.P...

Congratulations to **Hells Angel Chance** for your release to a Half-Way House...

Congratulations to **Outlaw Clyde** and **Outlaw Clay** for their releases to a Half-Way House...

Congratulations to **Iron Horsemen Dino** for your release to a Half-Way House on Jan 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009...

**Welcome** goes out to **13 Bandidos** just added to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars mailing list via **Bandido Pervert**...

**News Article Sources:** All News Articles contained in this NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter, unless source is specified, are obtained from the following 3 Web Sites: *Road Scholars (Wolf From Atlanta)*, *Outlaw Biker World*, & *White Trash Biker (Ace)*...

**Disclaimer:** The News Media does NOT always tell the Whole Truth. It tends to sensationalize the News to sell Newspapers...

**Editor's Note:** I produce this National Coalition of Motorcyclists Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter which is a non partisan newsletter for Bikers by Bikers. The mailing list consists of members mainly of One-percenter Motorcycle Clubs, as well as from some non One-percenter Motorcycle Clubs. Information from the Newsletter contains News Articles & other information that may be of interest to a biker behind bars. Financial support for this Newsletter comes mainly from NCOM, Motorcycle Clubs, Confederations Of Clubs, & Tattoo Shops...

**Editor's Note:** The current NCOM BBB Mailing List includes 1 Avengers, 33 Bandidos, 2 Banshees, 1 Boozefighters, 2 BPM, 6 Breed, 1 Brother Speed, 1 Christian Motorcycle Association, 3 Death Squad, 6 Devils Diciples, 4 Diablos, 2 El Forasteros, 3 Finks, 1 Free Souls, 1 Gypsy Jokers, 12 Hells Angels, 1 Hermano, 1 In Country Vietnam, 8 Iron Horsemen, 1 Iron Ranger, 1 Iron Wings, 1 Liberty Riders, 1 Mohawk Valley Riders, 8 Mongols, 39 Outlaws, 15 Pagan's, 2 Phantom's, 4 Pharaoh's, 1 Reapers, 1 Renegades, 1 Salramanials, 3 Scorpions, 8 Sons Of Silence, 1 Sundowners, 1 Thunderbird, 1 Unforegiven, 2 Vagos, 1 Viet Nam Vet, & 5 Warlocks...  
Of which: 6 - Australia, 2 - Norway, 3 - England & 3 - Sweden... **Total of 186...**

**New Brothers added to the NCOM BBB Newsletter's Mailing List** are approved via their respective Club's Contact Brother. Contacts are: Bandido Eclipse, Breed Shameless, Diablo Tommy, Devils Diciples Tatu, Iron Horsemen Backwards Bob, Iron Horsemen MF, Mongol Jeff, Outlaw Smitty, Pagan Hose-A, Pagan Ronnie, Pagan White Bear, Solders For Jesus Louie, SOS Bronson, SOS Gary, Vago JR, Vago Greasy Johnny, Warlock TW, And Warlock Big John...

**Editor's Note:** I would like to Thank all of these Club Contacts... If you have a chance, please thank them also!!! L&R, Mike SFFS

**Editor's Note:** For October there were 3 issues, For November there were 3 issues, For December this is 3<sup>rd</sup> issue so far...

**I know I speak for Frosty**, as well as myself & the rest of the Road-Scholars when I say thank you to all the Brothers behind bars who took the time & effort to mail us Christmas wished & season's greetings. It means more then you can imagine. We feel a strong kinship to you men, & will do our part to see that you're not forgotten. It is our most fervent wish that 2009 is a better year for all of you & brings you some much welcomed good news. Stay Strong. Wolf From Atlanta & all of us at Road-Scholars.org



**Sons Of Silence MC European Run** – Summer of 2008 – **Germany** - The planning for the Ten-Year anniversary began before two & a half years. Because a group of American members of the Sons of Silence MC wanted to complete their “European Invasion” just in time to the Party in the Bavarian Gankofen. It became a motorcycle trip, which led them through the half of Europe.

**Warm Welcome in Europe:** The journey began in the Irish village Tramore, where the Americans met the Germans for the first time. Three brothers of the Freising Chapter welcomed the travelers with open arms. Now the carefully arranged trip through the half of Europe started. Evan was excitedly awaiting the results of his organization work. The President of the Northern Colorado Chapter was responsible for the travel planning. Lenny is Chief of the resident Freewheelers MC which has friendly relations with the Sons. After all bikes were checked in his Harley store it was time to have some well-earned Guinness. So the first days on the green island made clear that there would be little or no room for sleep in the next weeks. The next days were filled out with trips over the island & to friends of the Freewheelers & the nights with bar hopping. Except the bumpy roads the Run had a successful beginning. The sixth day they took the ferry from Port Rossale to Wales, where the Welsh Y-Rohirrim MC Cymru welcomed the convoy. The speech was different but like in Ireland the Sons did lots of Sightseeing Trips passing huge castles. During the visit at the Celtic Nation Bike Show Evan even got a prize for his Shovel. They still had their thoughts by the Y-Rohirrim MC’s & the Freewheeler’s great hospitality while the 600km stage & the passing to Dover.

**Liberality in Amsterdam:** The 11th day the group was on their 200km stint from Calais to Antwerp. There they had a meeting with the Belgian Gringos MC in Terhagen on their plan. They are an independent MC, not a Support Club. The President of the American Gringos MC Denver was part of the journey since Ireland. For the welcome party they even closed a road. The next day they headed Amsterdam. Certainly the Group attracted attention wherever they rode. Every time they had to stop in consequence of technical problems they were “Rocker to touch”. So also happened a short distance away from Amsterdam, when a Bike lost its shifter. Prompt the cops came around. Contrary the expectation they were unbureaucratic & helpful. They escorted the shifterless bike to a garage owned by the Companeros MC who fixed the problem immediately. When they finally arrived Amsterdam they almost couldn’t believe the there common unrestricted mobility in some areas of life. They saw things which are unthinkable in the land of opportunity. That was something they had to digest, so they returned to Belgium to relax.

**Rainy Germany:** In the meantime two German Members & a couple of Gringos from Terhagen hooked up. On the 14th day they crossed the German Border heading the clubhouse of the SOS Chapter Nürnberg. Before they reached it they had to ride

through intense rain for hundreds of kilometers. In Nürnberg the group grew again, the Zombies Elite MC & the Heavens Own MC joined the convoy with the Freising clubhouse as destination. In cause of that an almost never ending Biker-throng rode along the highway. They stopped for a snack at the Freising clubhouse, before they continued for the last stint trough the Hallertau heading Gangkofen where the 10 years celebration would happen.

**Topless clubs feel the economic squeeze** – Dec 12, 2008 – **Detroit, Michigan** – By Jim Irwin; Associated Press - How bad are things around the Motor City? So bad that even Jon Jon’s Cabaret is offering half-off deals. The topless club in the suburb of Warren – where General Motors & Chrysler employ upwards of 20,000 people – cut the cost of a table dance in half, from \$20 to \$10, in mid-Nov. The dancer gets all the money plus any tips, while food & drinks generate the club’s income, general manager Kelly Sander said Tue. Jon Jon’s has lowered prices on drinks, but business is still down 50% from a year ago, Sander said. She now opens the club at 6 p.m. instead of 11 a.m. “People can’t afford to go out & have fun the way they used to,” said Sander, whose club on Mound Road is located roughly halfway between GM’s Technical Center & the GM Powertrain & Chrysler pickup truck assembly plants. “Of course it has to do with the economy.” The price cut in table dances, in which dancers perform at or on the patron’s table, gave business a bit of a boost, Sander said, but added: “The regulars still come in but they don’t stay as long. We do what we have to do keep going.” For Sander, that included pink-slipping one of her managers, who had worked 24 years for the club. “Everybody’s in a pinch,” she said. “I’ve got to make some cuts. It doesn’t matter what kind of business it is.” Others adult-oriented businesses haven’t been immune from the region’s economic sickness, either. The Greektown Casino in downtown Detroit is in chapter 11 bankruptcy, & the MGM Grand Detroit hotel & casino laid off several dozen employees in Oct. Unemployment in Detroit & its closest suburbs, including Warren, was 8.8% in October, up from 8.3% in September. Business has been unpredictable at the Booby Trap, a strip club on 8 Mile Road in Detroit, general manager Brian Klinec said. “We’re holding our own, let’s put it that way,” he said. “You’ve got your good nights & your bad nights. There are more bad nights. It’s tough. People don’t have disposable income right now.” Cheap drinks & football on TV remain big draws, Klimec said, but he expected more uncertainty in the near future: “After Jan. 1, everybody’s got their bills to pay from the holidays.”

**If the freedom of speech is taken away, then dumb & silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter.** - George Washington

**Good people** need to be there for each other. It’s the only way to stay sane in a sometimes insane world.

**Where the choice is** between only violence & cowardice, I would advise violence. - Mohatma Gandhi

**Hells Angels worried about image, expert testifies** - Dec 12, 2008 – *California* - By Raul Hernandez - Gang member on trial for assault in Newbury Park bar - The Hells Angels MC is worried about its public image & encourages its chapters to do charity work while it continues its underworld criminal activities, a gang expert testified Thursday in a Ventura County courtroom. Ventura County Sheriff's Dept Deputy Jeremy Paris told jurors that he recently obtained an e-mail sent by a Hells Angel member to the West Coast chapters saying that the organization's "image is suffering in the media" & encouraging club members to do more charity fundraisers, especially those that would benefit families, to improve the club's image. "Because it (family fundraising) gets you the best support locally," Paris testified. Paris continued his testimony from Wed in the trial of Brandon Thomas Mundell, 28, a San Fernando Valley resident, who is accused of going to the now-closed Take Five Bar in Newbury Park with 2 other Hells Angels & getting into a fight with patrons about 1:40 a.m. Jan. 19, 2006. The men went to the bar to challenge & fight with rival motorcycle gang members, the Mongols, who have a chapter in Camarillo, according to police. Mundell, who had a blood-alcohol level of .14%, brandished a knife at the bar, police said. Mundell is charged with assault with a deadly weapon & driving while intoxicated. Closing arguments in the trial are scheduled today. Mundell's lawyer, Dino Inumerable, said in an interview that there are credibility issues with prosecution witnesses. He successfully argued in court that jurors not be allowed to watch 2 videos of the Laughlin River Run in Nevada on April 27, 2002, when a brawl erupted between the Hells Angels & the Mongols inside Harrah's casino. The violence resulted in the deaths of 2 Hells Angels & 1 Mongol. Inumerable argued that the videos would be extremely prejudicial & accumulative evidence against his client. Ventura County Superior Court Judge Kevin DeNoce did allow testimony about the Laughlin incident. He told jurors that any gang-related evidence against Mundell could only be used to determine if Mundell committed the alleged crime for the benefit of the Hells Angels MC. Paris testified that the Hells Angels club is a violent criminal organization whose primary crimes include assaults with deadly weapons, drug dealing & motorcycle thefts. The Hells Angels commit violent crimes to instill the fear & intimidation in the community, according to Paris. He was blunt about the relationship between the Hells Angels & the Mongols. "They're at war," Paris said. Under cross examination, Paris said the Hells Angels have done charity work in the community including being involved with the "Toys for Tots" Christmas project. He said he didn't know whether the prosecution's witnesses & victims have any criminal records & that he relies mostly on police reports but does interview motorcycle gang members to get his information. "Have you ever met Mundell before?" Inumerable asked. "No," Price replied. Later, the defense's lone witness, Jamie Kasaboski, testified that Mundell helped her when she was working at an adult exotic dancer at a bar in Chatsworth in May 2005. She said Mundell, whom she didn't know, angrily confronted a bar patron who was trying to steal her money. Kasaboski said the bar was patronized by many bikers & admitted telling the district attorney's investigator that it was a bar where the Hells Angels hung out.

**Hells Angels ruled to be a Criminal Organization** – Dec 12, 2008 – *Canada* – By Peter Edwards - Two senior southern Ontario Hells Angels sold drugs & directed others to move narcotics for the benefit of the outlaw biker club, a judge ruled today. "I am satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that one of the main purposes or activities of the Hells Angels MC in Canada is the facilitation or commission of serious offences including

trafficking in cocaine & other drugs, extortion & trafficking in firearms," Ontario Superior Court Justice John McMahon said in the University Ave. courthouse as he found Gerald (Skinny) Ward, 60, of trafficking drugs to benefit the biker club. Ward is a founding member of the Hells Angels Niagara chapter. The judge made a similar finding against Terry Pink, 41, an executive member of the Simcoe Hells Angels. Ward & Pink had each vigorously denied that their drug dealing had anything to do with their membership in the biker club. In a related proceeding, a lawyer for the Hells Angels served notice that the club is seeking the return of all club vests & other items seized by police that have the club's winged skull "death-head" logo. The effort to recover the items with the club's copyright death-head logo is believed to be a first for Canada. Sentencing arguments for Ward will be heard on Feb. 27, while Pink's lawyer will make sentencing arguments on Jan. 29. Pink was released on bail while Ward remains in custody. Ward didn't attend court because of an undisclosed medical problem. Ward & Pink were charged in September 2006 after selling drugs to Steven Gault, a member of the Oshawa Hells Angels who was working as a paid police agent in an 18-month operation. They pleaded guilty in September to drug dealing, but denied they broke the law to support the biker club. McMahon had reserved his decision until today. Fed prosecutor Tom Andreopoulos had argued that the drug dealing "had everything to do with the Hells Angels MC." Andreopoulos told court that members of the Hells Angels are expected to give 10% of criminal proceeds to the club. Pink's lawyer, Joseph Bloomenfeld, had argued that there was no evidence the drug deals were connected to his client's Hells Angels membership. He compared business dealings between Hells Angels to transactions between fellow Kinsmen. "Is it in association with that organization?" he had asked the judge. Pink had sold Gault about 8,340 pills of ecstasy in 4 separate transactions while Ward was charged with directing 5 other members & associates of the Hells Angels to deliver about 4 kilograms of high-grade cocaine to Gault. Gault wore a hidden microphone during the undercover operation as he purchased \$3 million in drugs from fellow club members in a massive police operation called Project Tandem. Gault was paid more than \$1-million for his work & is now in a witness protection program. In an interview with police, Gault said that gaining membership in the Hells Angels & being allowed to wear the club's "death-head" patch had definite business advantages for a criminal. "The whole idea of a patch & being a full-patch member is that you can be 100% trusted," Gault told police. "And you can do business with anybody & they're to trust you 100% & that's meaning business as in illegal business — drugs, stolen property — um, anything. Robberies." Court heard that Ward charged one man \$500 per week for the privilege of dealing drugs while others paid tribute to him to keep the peace. McMahon's finding that the Canadian Hells Angels are a criminal organization supports a landmark ruling in Barrie, by Madam Justice Michelle Fuerst during a 2005 extortion trial. In another Project Tandem case in September, McMahon called the Hells Angels MC a highly structured criminal organization that's better run than many multinational corporations. He made the comments in the trial of Kenneth (Wags) Wagner, 43, of the Hells Angels Niagara chapter, who was found guilty of trafficking drugs & a pistol for a criminal enterprise.

**The sad truth** is that most evil is done by people who never make up their minds to be either good or evil. - Hannah Arendt

**The man who lets a leader** prescribe his course is a wreck being towed to the scrap heap. - Ayn Rand

**Police found gun at Hell's Angels house** – Dec 12, 2008 – *Wales* - A Handgun fitted with a silencer was found at a West Wales Hell's Angels clubhouse, a court heard. Police who raided the base found the loaded gun with the safety catch switched off at Bethany House, Old Hakin Road, Merlin's Bridge, near Haverfordwest. Forensic scientist Philip Ridyard described the pistol as "lethal" & "in a state of readiness". A bullet was already in the firing chamber & 6 more in the gun's magazine, Swansea Crown Court heard. Gary Young, 40, of Blossom Farm, Tiers Cross, Haverfordwest, denies charges of possessing the gun, silencer & ammunition. Geraint Walters, prosecuting, told the court Young was a member of the West Wales chapter of the Hell's Angels group of motorcyclists. Police searched the premises on Sept 6 last year & found the gun, described in court as an 8mm German-made handgun. Walters said police also found a plastic box containing a second magazine of bullets, but for a Berretta-style weapon. Police later recovered 3 fingerprints from the box that could be matched to Young.

**Outraged over Hells Angels** - Dec 13, 2008 – *Arizona* - I am a retired law enforcement professional. I was outraged & disgusted with the article I read in the Dec. 7 paper on the Hells Angels. The end does not justify the means. The comments in this article, portraying the Hell's Angels as misunderstood boys & minimizing their background & history, is nothing but misinformation & ignorance on the part of those making these statements. The Hells Angels are & have been involved in criminal activity since their inception. One only needs to watch segments on the History Channel or A & E to witness their violent & criminal history. Just recently in Cave Creek, Ariz., a sweep by law enforcement produced arrests of Hells Angels on a list of criminal charges. To portray this group as responsible is pure nonsense. Their influence in any community can only be categorized as an infiltration of an organized crime group. My support is expressed for local law enforcement to continue a strong vigil on this group's activities & strong enforcement of the law - related to their activities. Again, I cannot believe that any responsible citizen would try to minimize criminal behavior in order to make a buck, either for business or charity. Editorial By John R. Larkin; Yuma

**Response on Road-Scholar's Web Site:** I'm outraged by the millions of crimes committed by law enforcement over the course of history. Long before there were bikers, there were countless cops taking payoffs & committing all kinds of crimes. My old man, may he rot in his grave, was a cop. I grew up hearing stories about the local hookers lined up at the Mayor's Office every Monday to make their payoffs & how the Chief of Police was a bag man for the shakedown money they charged all the bars in the red light district. As a matter of fact, he told me that in those days (50s) a cop was not allowed to drive a Cadillac or luxury car, because it looked like he might be on the take. You could be on the take, but needed to not give it away with appearances. Yeah, this "outraged" cops probably spends his days sucking up the freebies from merchants in the town he works in, so his opinion that some motorcycle club is not good enough to give toys to kids really impresses (NOT) me. The real dangerous gang in this country are wearing blue uniforms. Respects, Fish

**Jurors get case of Hells Angel accused in bar fight** – Dec 13, 2008 – *California* - By Raul Hernandez - During closing arguments Friday in the trial of a Hells Angel motorcycle club member, the prosecution told jurors the defendant walked into a now-closed bar in Newbury Park spoiling for a fight with rival gang members & telling patrons he was going to "take over" the bar. "He went over there with a chip on his shoulder looking for

something to happen," said prosecutor Derek Malan. Brandon Mundell, 28, of the San Fernando Valley is on trial in Ventura County Superior Court, charged with assault with a deadly weapon, exhibiting a weapon, driving while intoxicated & driving with a blood-alcohol level of 0.08%. Mundell's lawyer, however, told jurors the prosecution wanted them to believe that his client used a 4-inch knife to take over an entire bar that could have been "potentially infested" with rival gang members & that he set out to do it with the help of 2 bikers who weren't even Hells Angels. From 75 to 150 patrons were in the bar, noted the defense attorney, Dino Innumerable. The jury received the case late Friday afternoon & was expected to return Monday. Prosecutors allege Mundell committed a crime for the benefit of the Hells Angels, which a gang expert testified is a violent criminal organization. Malan said Mundell is a member of the Hells Angels' San Fernando Valley chapter, & he & 2 other bikers went to the Take Five Bar & got into a fight with patrons at 1:40 a.m. Jan. 19, 2006. The prosecutor said the trio went to the bar — allegedly frequented by members of a rival group, the Mongols — to challenge them to a brawl. The Mongols, who are said to have a chapter in Camarillo, were apparently not at the bar that night. Part of the incident was captured by a video surveillance camera inside the bar, & about 20 minutes of the videotape was shown to jurors as evidence. Malan said Mundell wanted jurors to think he was the victim & the "entire bar" was against him. "He plays victim," Malan told jurors, adding that Mundell invoked the name of the Hells Angels & became violent because he felt he was being disrespected. Malan said Mundell struck a bar patron with a pool stick. Malan also said a witness testified that Mundell chased him with a knife outside the bar. Innumerable said his client is guilty of not driving safely & having a blood-alcohol level of more than 0.08%, but, he said, prosecution witnesses made statements that were inconsistent & contradictory. Innumerable said the video shows Mundell drinking, smoking, talking to women & having a "normal conversation" — not appearing agitated. The attorney also said the incident involved only Mundell, not the Hells Angels club. He said the club's members have legitimate activities, including motorcycle trips & barbecues, & the more than 3,000 members shouldn't all be lumped in as criminals.

**Hundreds of bikies arrested in major crackdown** - Dec 13, 2008 – *Australia* - Police trying to quell the outlaw bikie violence that is turning Sydney suburbs into warzones have arrested more than 800 gang members & associates. Sydney's north & western regions are bikie hotspots, with 166 arrests since May last year. Police arrested 107 bikies in central city & 144 in Sydney's southwest. A further 200 were arrested in coastal areas from Sydney to the Queensland border. The arrests come as police across the country are fighting bikie shootings & other crimes committed by outlaw gangs. This week 4 men with links to the Bandidos were arrested in a car at Revesby, with police investigating links to a drive-by shooting at Sadlier on Wednesday. The men allegedly had 2 guns. Police also revealed yesterday that the shooting of a man at Seven Hills in Sydney's west in November was bikie related. With 4 drive-by shootings on northern & western Sydney this week linked to bikies, gangs squad commander Detective Superintendent Mal Lanyon said police would continue the crackdown.

**Those who make peaceful** revolution impossible will make violent revolution inevitable. - John F. Kennedy.

**May we never** confuse honest dissent with disloyal subversion? - Dwight D. Eisenhower

**Johnny Montani cleared of bikie murder** – Dec 13, 2008 – *Australia* - By Todd Cardy - Security guard Johnny Montani has been cleared by a Supreme Court jury of the execution murder of former Coffin Cheater bikie Kevin "Mick" Woodhouse. Montani, 43, had stood trial for the third time for the wilful murder Woodhouse of was gunned down outside the Bayswater Aquatic Centre on May 12, 2004. The jury took 12 hours to return the verdict which drew gasps from Woodhouse's distraught family. Outside court, Mr Montani said he was relieved to clear his name. "After 4 & a half years, 3 & half of those in a maximum security prison, & half a million dollars in legal fees before I am finally cleared, he told reporters. "It has been a rough, tough road but it is finally over."

**Bikie gangs shootings** – Dec 13, 2008 – *Australia* - By Dylan Welch - An Escalating feud between bikie gangs the Rebels & the Bandidos is being linked to as many as 13 shootings on Sydney streets in just over 2 weeks. A new elite police unit, originally set up to investigate the night-time shooting of a gang member in Seven Hills last month, is widening its net to examine the outbreak of violence among the outlaw gangs. Codenamed Highcro & made up of gangs squad officers, the strikeforce will examine the series of shootings in western Sydney. On Nov 28, a 25-year-old was shot several times in the head & chest while a passenger in a car driving on the Prospect Highway. The car was hit by about 19 bullets fired from at least 2 high-powered rifles. He's critical condition. The Highcro detectives are using that incident as a springboard to look at 12 other shootings they believe may be linked to the warring bikie gangs, who have a history of enmity that often boils over into street warfare. A prominent Bandido was murdered in Melbourne in Oct & rumours of a planned "hit" marred the Fri extradition hearing in New Zealand of a Rebel member accused of a vicious bashing in Queensland last year. Only 4 days after the Seven Hills shooting, a Gypsy Joker was shot & knocked from his bike as he rode on the Great Western Hwy before midnight. In the early hours of the same day, Dec 2, a tattoo parlor in Belmore & a Bass Hill house were fired at. No one was injured in either shooting. Since then there have been 9 shootings across Sydney's west. The NSW violence comes on the back of a flare-up between the 2 gangs in Victoria. On Oct 22, a Bandidos enforcer, 51-year-old Ross Brand, was shot dead outside the gang's Geelong clubhouse. Two brothers, both members of the Rebels, have been charged with his murder. The continuing gang violence has also led to high security during an extradition hearing for New Zealander & Rebel member Peter Douglas Rauhina, 37. The 1<sup>st</sup> Sydney arrests in relation to the feud occurred on Wed night, when police pulled over 4 men in a Holden Commodore for a routine check & discovered 2 semi-automatic rifles, one loaded. Half an hour before the road stop, a house in Sadlier, believed to be linked to the Rebels, had been shot at. The 4 men, aged 21 to 46, are understood to be Bandidos associates.

**Billings motorcycle club honored** - Dec 14, 2008 – *Montana* - The Road Dogs MC has been providing thousands of dollars worth of toys for kids during the holiday season for over 20 years in Billings. The Salvation Army presented a plaque on Sunday to the Road Dogs for their dedication of making sure kids in the community have a present on Christmas morning. The Road Dogs started their "Toy Run" at Fire Station #1 at Noon & rode vehicles ranging from motorcycles to 4 wheelers to dump trucks carrying loads of toys. They all ended up at the Rimrock Mall where they dropped off \$25,000 to \$30,000 worth of toys. Road Dog President, Mark "Curley" Helmbrecht said that he's proud that roughly 200 people turned out for the event, & is just happy

that they can provide some Christmas spirit for children throughout the community. Salvation Army officials said that over 80% of the donated toys they receive each year come from the Road Dog Toy Drive.

**4 hurt in motorcycle vs. vehicle crash in Tamarac** – Dec 14, 2008 – *Florida* – By Diana Mosovitz - Four people were injured, including 2 motorcyclists, after a crash Sunday in Tamarac, the Broward Sheriff's Office said. Investigators said they believed the motorcycles were coming from the Christmas Toys in the Sun Run in Sunrise because at least one had Christmas decorations on it, BSO spokeswoman Keyla Concepción said. The crash happened about 5 p.m. near Nob Hill Road & Northwest 77th Street, BSO said. One motorcycle collided with a vehicle, BSO said, & the second bike went down to avoid the crash. Tamarac Fire-Rescue took all 4 to North Broward Medical Center in Deerfield Beach for treatment.

**Tough guys with soft hearts ride for charity** – Dec 14, 2008 - *Australia* - By Frances Stewart - They might look tough in leathers, but South Australia's motorcycle community proved they are really big softies. This year the Motorcycle Riders Association of South Australia's charity Toy Run celebrated its 30th anniversary. But organisers say the economic downturn & gloomy weather kept this year's run on a smaller scale than last year's record-breaking event. Organisers estimate just under 17,000 riders took part in today's ride from Glenelg to Hahndorf. The ride was followed by a fair, where a gold coin or toy donation was collected for the St Vincent de Paul Society's Christmas appeal. "It's been a fantastic day," MRASA president Phil McClelland said. "Last year we collected \$30,000 worth of toys, so we're hoping for another good result this year."

**Tensions High as German Biker Gang Trial Begins** – Dec 15, 2008 – *Germany* - The trial of 14 Hells Angels motorcycle gang members, the largest of its kind ever held in Germany, gets underway in Hanover amid heavy security. Dozens of police officers stood guard at the opening of the trial of 14 German Hells Angels members charged with greivous bodily harm & theft. Twelve of the accused were deemed to be so dangerous that they were not permitted to sit next to the lawyers in charge of their defense. The defendants are accused of raiding the headquarters of a rival gang, the Bandidos, in the town of Stuhr in March 2006, brutally beating 5 rival gang members & stealing money, insignia & a laptop computer. Police with dogs fanned out in & around the courthouse & patrolled the highways into town in a bid to prevent clashes between the 2 gangs. Only 20 members from each gang were allowed into the courtroom to witness the trial. Earlier this year, some 450 leather-clad bikers roared into the western city of Muenster to see 2 members of the Bandidos jailed for life for the 2007 slaying of a Hells Angel. Biker gangs including the Bandidos & the Hells Angels, both of which have members all over the world, have been involved in bloody feuds in recent years & are believed to be highly active in organized crime.

**Hells Angels president appears in court** – Dec 15, 2008 – *Canada* - By Dean Pritchard, Sun Media - Will Dale Donovan be home for Christmas, or will it only be in his dreams? A three-day bail hearing for the jailed Manitoba Hells Angels president began Monday. A court-ordered ban prohibits publishing details of the hearing. Donovan was among 18 Hells Angels members & associates arrested last December in an undercover police sting dubbed Project Drill. Career criminal Scott Robertson was paid more than \$600,000 to buy drugs from Project Drill suspects while police recorded the proceedings.

**Bikers help vets with blankets** – Dec 15, 2008 – *Mississippi* - By Ed Kemp - Wayne Barrett of Hattiesburg, gripping a homemade blanket, extended a hand to World War II veteran R.G. Jordan. “Care for a blanket sir?” he asked & then paused. “Thank you for your service. We are all free because of you.” Barrett & 14 fellow members of the Vietnam Vets MC of Hattiesburg handed out 125 of these blankets to veterans Sunday afternoon in Collins. It was part of the Mississippi Veterans Home’s Christmas celebration, which featured a dinner, gift-giving & a visit from Santa Claus. Club member Charlie DiBenedetto said his group supports the veterans home through events such as dinners & a yearly fundraiser, as part of its charitable mission to help area veterans & their family members. “They gave so much & they need a lot,” said DiBenedetto. “We just want to do our part to help take care of them.” The blankets this year were a bonus, explained fellow member Frank Hartman. He said his mother Constance Hartman, 78, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., volunteered to knit lap blankets for the veterans. What started out as a modest attempt to knit a few blankets grew into a year-long project to knit them for all 125 members of the home, he said. His mother received help first from friends & then, through local newspaper publicity, from other community members to complete the massive undertaking. “It brought a lot of good people out & a lot of good came from it,” he said. “It really restored my mother’s faith in humanity.” Veterans & their families expressed their gratitude at the charitable gesture. John Tingle, a U.S. Coast Guard veteran of World War II, examined the blanket while sitting in his wheelchair. “It should come in handy,” he said. “It will be nice & warm in the winter.” Lee Watson, of Collins, daughter of World War II veteran Hilmer Barnes said she was surprised by the work that went into the gifts given to her father & others. “I wish I could knit,” she said laughing. “That’s so beautiful. It’s so thoughtful.” American Legion Post 160 of Pascagoula helped sponsor the Christmas celebration along with area churches & other volunteers. Veterans home administrator Dawn Bullock said she was pleased by the Christmas festivities, as well as the large turnout of family members. “We appreciate all the community support & the efforts to give the veterans some Christmas cheer,” she said. “It means so much to support the veterans because of all they have done for this country.”

**Prelim begins for alleged Mongols shooters** – Dec 16, 2008 – *California* – By Sean Garmire; The Times-Standard - A silver revolver was found lying next to a Hells Angels member who was hit in a non-fatal shooting outside an Old Town bar in early Nov. On the early morning of Nov. 8, medical responders found 43-year-old Robert Thompson bleeding in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street intersection. Thompson was shot several times in the incident, & according to testimony given by a Eureka police detective, a .22-caliber revolver was found lying next to him, with a single shot expended. The 4 men charged in the shooting appeared in Humboldt County Superior Court Monday on the first day of their preliminary hearing. According to testimony given by investigators at the hearing, witnesses at the scene notified police the shooter, who had been wearing a black baseball cap, had sped away in a dark-colored van. A van was found later that night, & authorities arrested Eric Gunner Lundin, 28, Dustin Christopher Liebes, 36, Brad Lee Miller, 26, & Redding resident Eric Dean Garcia, 28. All 4 have pleaded not guilty to charges of attempted murder, assault with a firearm & participating in a criminal street gang. Inside the van, investigators reportedly found a disassembled semi-automatic handgun, & Lundin in possession of a black baseball cap. Eureka PD Detective Todd Wilcox, who testified at the Monday hearing, said that during an interview just after his arrest, Lundin denied any knowledge of the event. “I

asked him ... what had happened tonight,” Wilcox testified. “He said he hoped that I could tell him.” From early on in the investigation, authorities have speculated the shooting may have resulted from a rivalry between 2 biker gangs, The Hells Angels & the Mongols. So far, investigators have not released evidence linking the 4 suspects to a motorcycle gang. The 4 suspects have been booked into the Humboldt County jail. Lundin, Liebes & Miller are held on \$500,000 bail, while Garcia is held on \$500,000 plus an additional \$10,000 stemming from an arrest warrant out of Manteca. The preliminary hearing is expected to last through Wed.

**U.S. District Court hands out 20 drug indictments** – Dec 16, 2008 – *Terre Haute, Indiana* - By Brian M. Boyce; The Tribune-Star - Wake-up came early for 20 Vigo County residents indicted on federal drug charges Thu morning. A 100-plus-officer warrant sweep launched about 6 am had netted 19 arrests by the afternoon, Brad Blackington, assistant U.S. attorney, announced at a news conference in the Terre Haute City PD’s training center. Jason Bays, 34, of Terre Haute, was the only suspect who remained at large Thu evening, Blackington said. The 20 indictments handed down by the U.S. District Court for Southern Indiana represented 2 separate rings of suspected methamphetamine traffickers, he said. The indictments translated into arrest warrants on multiple conspiracy to traffic methamphetamine allegations. The 2 organizations were responsible for the weekly distribution of 3 to 5 pounds of methamphetamine in Vigo County, & while separate in ownership structure, would occasionally do business with each other, Blackington said. Heads of local LEOs said this bust shows their resolve in battling drugs within the community. “I think it shows we’re serious about drugs in Vigo County,” said John Plasse, chief of the Terre Haute PD. Vigo County Sheriff Jon Marvel concurred, noting the “terrific operation” took several months of planning. Blackington said the investigation was directed by the Evansville office of the DEA, the Vigo County Drug Task Force & the Indiana State Police, with members of Fed agencies such as the FBI, ATF, the U.S. Marshals & the Clay County Sheriff’s Dept participating as well. Blackington referred to the 2001 methamphetamine bust involving the Diablos Motorcycle Gang in terms of scope. “When you deal with large quantities of methamphetamine like this, it’s not being manufactured in Indiana,” he said, explaining that most of what is now trafficked into the Midwest comes from the southwestern states. And while more methamphetamine was taken from the Diablos raids, the purity of that drug was about 25%. The methamphetamine involved in Thursday’s arrests was between 40 & 80%, he said. “That’s what we’re seeing,” Blackington said. “More & more purity.” Seized in the raids were 1.5 pounds of methamphetamine, 2 pounds of marijuana, 20 firearms, \$28,000 in cash, about 10 vehicles & illegally possessed prescription drugs, he said.

**Human interest story:** Words to live by... All women should live so long as to be this kind of old lady! Toward the end of Sunday service, the Minister asked, ‘How many of you have forgiven your enemies?’ 80% held up their hands. The Minister then repeated his question. All responded this time, except one small elderly lady. ‘Mrs. Neely?’; ‘Are you not willing to forgive your enemies?’ I don’t have any.’ She replied, smiling sweetly. ‘Mrs. Neely, that is very unusual. How old are you?’ ‘Ninety-eight.’ she replied. ‘Oh, Mrs. Neely, would you please come down in front & tell us all how a person can live ninety-eight years & not have an enemy in the world?’ The little sweetheart of a lady tottered down the aisle, faced the congregation, & said, ‘I outlived the bitches.’

**Trial Begins For Mulberry Man** – Dec 16, 2008 – *Florida* – By Elaine Silvestrini; Tampa Tribune - Randy Nowak's own words will be the most important evidence in his trial on charges he tried to hire a hit man to kill an IRS officer, a federal prosecutor told jurors this morning. Nowak, 49, of Mulberry, is accused of hiring a man he knew as "Reaper" to kill an IRS revenue officer for a total of \$20,000 because he was afraid of going to prison for tax evasion. Nowak's attorneys gave jurors no inkling this morning of his defense. Attorney William Sites, in a brief opening statement, only cautioned the jury to wait until all the evidence is presented before making a decision. Assistant U.S. Attorney Amanda Reidel said the case began when Nowak walked into the auto repair shop of a friend, Walter McGhee. "In Walter's words, 'Randy looked serious as a heart attack,'" Reidel told jurors. Nowak asked McGhee about hiring someone to kill an IRS officer, the prosecutor said. She said Nowak thought McGhee would be able to find someone because McGhee had loose connections to the Outlaws MC. McGhee worried he might be implicated & immediately alerted law enforcement, Reidel said. He agreed to allow agents to record his conversations with Nowak, beginning more than a month of electronic surveillance. Reidel read to jurors from transcripts of conversations in which she said Nowak talked about the IRS officer & how thorough she was. Nowak talked about his idea that if she was killed, he could just tell the IRS he had turned over all his paperwork to her, & it must have been lost. Reidel described meetings between Nowak & an undercover officer, "Reaper," & said there was no question Nowak wanted the IRS agent killed. Nowak paid the first \$10,000 & was arrested with \$10,000 in cash in his vehicle after he thought the deed had been done, Reidel said.

**OMCG paraphernalia seized after raids** – Dec 16, 2008 – *Australia* - Outlaw Motorcycle Gang paraphernalia relating to the Rebels & Bandidos has been seized after police raids in Sydney's west. Police from Blacktown Local Area Command, assisted by detectives from State Crime Command's Gangs Squad & other specialist police units, yesterday executed search warrants at alleged OMCG club houses on Station Road & the Prospect Highway, Seven Hills. Seized at the Station Road address was paraphernalia associated with the Rebels OMCG. A second warrant was executed by police at a building on the Prospect Highway, where police found paraphernalia believed to be associated with the Bandidos OMCG. Items seized from both raids will be the subject of further inquiries by Blacktown Local Area Command & the Gangs Squad. Blacktown Local Area Commander, Superintendent Mark Wright, said yesterday's raids reinforced their ongoing commitment to public safety. Gangs Squad Commander, Detective Superintendent Mal Lanyon, said the raids send a strong message to OMCG members. "We are serious about targeting your illegal activities & criminal enterprises," Detective Superintendent Lanyon said. "Today's raids follow hot on the heels of recent Operation Ranmore results revealing 811 people have been arrested & 1837 charges laid since the operation began in May last year."

**Bikie gang to be outlawed** - Dec 16, 2008 – *Australia* – South Australian police have moved to effectively ban the Finks motorcycle gang using world-first legislation to crack down on their criminal activities. Police Commissioner Mal Hyde confirmed today an application had been forwarded to Attorney-General Michael Atkinson to have the Finks named a "declared organisation" under tough new anti-gang laws. If successful the declaration will essentially make it illegal for gang members to meet or gather together. The new laws, which came into effect in September, also allow magistrates to issue control orders against

gang members & introduce a new offence of criminal association to stop gang members & their hangers-on from gathering. The Finks are the first group targeted by the new legislation, but further applications to outlaw other bikie gangs are expected, with police likely to move against street gangs as well. When the new laws came into effect Assistant Commissioner Tony Harrison said officers had been working for some time to prepare cases against key groups, with bikie gangs the first in their sights. "What we have been doing is considering all of the outlaw motorcycle gangs & their respective criminal activity," he said at the time. "We've been going through a fairly comprehensive process in relation to consolidating our information & it won't be too far down the track that we will be moving forward & making an application for the declaration process." Police intelligence suggests there are about 250 initiated members of 8 bikie gangs operating in South Australia, with a further 150 people closely associated with those groups. Atkinson said the new laws were a clear message that those people were not welcome in South Australia. "They should either leave their gangs or leave the state. "We will pursue them until they do," he said in Sept. "Members of these gangs are responsible for dealing drugs, using deadly weapons, murders & countless assaults, not to mention the blackmail & intimidation these bullies inflict if they feel threatened." A spokeswoman for Hyde said police would not comment further while the declaration process against the Finks was underway.

**Inmate slashed face to earn bikie 'colours'** – Dec 16, 2008 – *Australia* – By Andrew Dowdell - A Remand centre inmate slashed the face of another prisoner to earn his "colours" from the Finks MC, the District Court has heard. Paolo Luigi Marchesini today applied for release on bail on a charge of aggravated causing serious harm with intent. Marchesini, 27, was in the Adelaide Remand Centre on other charges when he allegedly attacked David John Partridge with a prison-made blade in February this year. Partridge is now serving an 11-year prison term for the criminal neglect of toddler David Mamo, who died from shocking internal injuries in February 2006. Partridge, who filmed & mocked the dying toddler on his mobile phone, was originally charged with murder but prosecutors dropped that charge. The court has previously heard that David Mamo's grandfather, William Davis, was a senior member of the Finks. Prosecutor Corinna Baohm said Marchesini had used a phone call to tell a friend about the attack, which left Partridge with a permanent large scar on his face & neck. Ms Baohm said Marchesini's motivation for attacking Partridge was to help his bid to become a full member of the Finks. "He (Partridge) killed Billy D's grandchild ... you know I've earned my colours," Marchesini allegedly said during the phone call. Ms Baohm said the "brazen & violent" attack took place in front of remand centre staff & other inmates. She said Marchesini should not be granted bail because of the seriousness of the charges & the chances of him offending again while on bail. Marchesini's lawyer Sean Richter said his client would be pleading not guilty on the grounds of self defence. Richter said Marchesini was in fear for his safety in custody & that he would be less likely to offend if allowed out on home detention bail ahead of his trial next July. Judge Andrea Simpson ordered a home detention bail report & remanded Marchesini in custody for a decision next week.

**The difference** between death & taxes is death doesn't get worse every time Congress meets. - Will Rogers

**Nothing Wrong With Shooting** as Long as the Right People Get Shot. - Clint Eastwood, Magnum Force, 1973

## **Heart of a money-making operation** – Dec 16, 2008 – *Canada*

– By Karena Walters & Grant LaFleche; The Standard - The cocaine trade proved to be big business for Niagara's Hells Angels, who conducted deals from a headquarters in rural Welland. The coke was pure enough to freeze a man's brain. At least, that was the joke. Niagara Hells Angels president Gerald Ward's product was top-notch. 85 to 91% pure. "I never even tried it, I'm like, I'm trying not to touch it," Steven Gault said, laughing about the potency at Ward's Quaker Road house in Aug 2005. Gault, a member of the Oshawa chapter, paid \$42,000 in cold, hard cash for 1.1 kilograms. Business was brisk for the new Niagara chapter. The grip of cocaine on addicts doesn't loosen in rough economic times. The Hells Angels' product was a guaranteed money-maker. Tens of thousands of dollars were being traded for kilograms of coke in Niagara parking lots. Like any CEO, Gerald Ward was consumed with the complex issues of his market. Supply & demand. Pricing. Quality control. Eliminating competition. That last part was easy. The power of the patch kept potential entrepreneurs in check. "They have complete control of the coke dealing in the whole Niagara region," a Hells Angel-turned-police agent said later in court. "Anyone steps in there, they'll kill him point-blank. You don't play with their game. So ... all their lives are built upon drug dealing." The Hells Angels may have had a monopoly on Niagara's drug trade, but Ward prided himself on the quality of his product. The cocaine had a reputation for being so pure, buyers came from outside the region. Dealers would cut the drugs, turning a higher profit. That's 2,000 half-grams in a kilogram, at \$40 a shot. Or 4,000 half-grams if it's watered down. Enormous profit. "Yeah, I have never had a complaint for probably 10 years," Ward said. Company headquarters were based in the seemingly impenetrable Darby Road clubhouse in rural Welland.

**Fortress Niagara:** It stuck out like a sore thumb on a barren road surrounded by farmers' fields. A chain-link fence with barbed wire screamed "Keep Out." So did the electronic security gate. Surveillance cameras. A metal door filled with cement that opened outward. It was a place even police dared not tread. That's what Ward thought anyway. "I got a couple friends of mine that are cops, eh? I've known them all my life; they're terrified of coming here because they drive by & see all the cameras on the outside..." he told Gault. "Actually they haven't bothered us down here; like we've never been raided & nobody's ever been charged down here. We've been lucky." If the outside was built to intimidate, the insides of the clubhouse looked like a legion hall, an intelligence officer said. A bar, kitchen table, various Hells Angels trinkets. Christmas cards from other chapters celebrating the season & brotherhood. Ward conducted business from either his fortress or his house, where he stuffed plastic bags filled with wads of cash inside a compartment in an entertainment unit -- \$304,430 at last count. Transactions typically went like the one in October 2005, when Gault met Ward at his Welland home. Ward offered to sell a kilogram of cocaine, Gault agreed, & right-hand man Kenneth Wagner left to arrange delivery. "It's good, eh?" Ward asked of his product. "From what I hear," Gault said. Ward laughed. They agreed on \$38,000 for the drugs & drove in separate vehicles to a motorcycle store on Regional Road 20 in Fenwick. Waiting in the parking lot were local Hells Angels associates Timothy Muise, who waved at the arrivals, & Alain Lacroix, who was driving a PT Cruiser. Lacroix & Gault got into the PT Cruiser, where Gault reached into a drawer under the passenger seat. He removed a package & bagged it. Gault then got out of the car, back into his own vehicle & drove away. Three days later, he went to Ward's house & paid up. Ward sold \$156,000 worth of cocaine to Gault alone between August 2005 & February 2006. He never touched the drugs himself. Ward would

order Wagner to set up a deal. Wagner would call the players. The Niagara crew could barely keep up with demand. A shortage in supply threatened to drive up Ward's asking price. Hells Angels clubhouses have security systems & fortifications for protection from attacks by rival gangs or police raids. The Niagara chapter's bunker at 855 Darby Rd. was no exception. Det. Sgt. Kenneth Davis of the province's joint-forces biker enforcement unit called it the "premier" clubhouse in Ontario. Rural location deters surveillance because any increased traffic or parked vehicles could easily be detected. Perimeter of property has chain-link fence capped with barbed wire. Fence facing Darby Road has darkcoloured tarp to block view of the property. Electronic security gate controls road access to the property. Video surveillance cameras cover the entire property, surrounding yard & street. Main-floor window openings are filled in with cinder blocks. Metal door has pipe-like double bolts on the inside portion of the exterior doors. Inside, a room for a computer & fax machines, a bar area similar to a licensed premise, & chapter photographs from around the world, with posters & Hells Angels paraphernalia. A sign inside says: "What you see here -- what you say here -- what you hear here -- stays here when you leave here." Ward bought less supply to save money, figuring the price would eventually go down. Gault said it was like "playing the stock market." "Pretty well the same thing," Ward said. "You're up, you're down." Crunching numbers wasn't Ward's only worry. He had to keep the club & its members in order. He complained bitterly to Gault about non-Hells Angels donning the winged death head. The Niagara chapter would track down anyone using the Hells Angels name falsely & "make 'em pay" -- literally. "I just got 10 grand off a guy 2 weeks ago," Ward told Gault. "He used my name 3 times, my name personally." Even Ward's son got \$2,000 from a man in a bar who bragged he was part of the club. According to Ward, the conversation went like this: "Where you from?" "Niagara, I'm a Hells Angel." "Niagara. You sure?" "Yep." "Do you know who my father is?" "Nope." "My father's Gerry Ward." "Oh f---, f---off." Just as infuriating to Ward were gang members who used cocaine in their chapter clubhouses. Bad for business. "If I catch anybody in the clubhouse doing it, we bar him for life," Ward said. "We don't let him in no more." He refused to let visiting Hells Angels do coke at Darby Road. "It's going to be a downfall to the charters that do it," Ward said, complaining about Simcoe County in particular. His own members seemed to have their act together. Wagner & Muise even had time to open their own used car business, Gasline Auto Sales, on Highway 3 in Port Colborne. The July 2005 grand opening made it into the business section of the Welland Tribune. Neither man wore their colours for the photo op. Times were good. But the tide was about to turn. Police raided a Hells Angels stash house on Adelaide Street in Port Colborne. Inside, they found trace amounts of cocaine & drug-trafficking items. A flurry of telephone conversations between Wagner, Muise & homeowner Deborah Fetz followed. "Yeah, we got problems I think, buddy," Muise told Wagner. "What kinda problems?" "Not good ones, um yeah..." The police raid, while problematic, didn't stop Ward from arranging another \$38,000 cocaine sale to Gault 2 weeks later at the Seaway Mall. He was untouchable, after all. The Niagara chapter was still open for business. "Comfort leads to complacency," a local member of the provincial joint-forces biker enforcement unit said later. "We want to be out of sight, out of mind," said his partner. The end of the road was coming. Sept. 28, 2006. For Ward, another Thu. For police, Project Tandem. Officers across the province simultaneously swooped down on Hells Angels clubhouses & properties. They were armed with evidence from wiretaps &

body-pack microphones. Secret conversations between Hells Angels members. A devastating, almost crushing blow to the organization. Ward was arrested. So was Wagner. Rookie Angel Richard Beaulieu was arrested. Muise, Lacroix, & Fetz were hauled off in cuffs. Gault went into witness protection. He would collect more than \$1 million for his troubles. Conversations between Gerald Ward & Steven Gault, & between Timothy Muise & Kenneth Wagner, were taken from transcripts of police recordings used in court.

**Farewell to a good source** – Dec 16, 2008 – *Canada* – By Paul Walton; The Daily News - Silence has descended upon those who thought the police scanner was good entertainment or a means to get away with crime. It has also crimped what we do here at the Daily News. Though ambulance & fire department channels remain, they too will be going digital soon enough. As has been the case since the first news gathering operation began we will adapt to such changes. It should come as no surprise to anyone that the RCMP has put in place a communications system that can no longer be scanned. What did surprise me is what my colleague Walter Cordery was told when he asked the Mounties why they went digital. An RCMP spokesman, Const. Darren Lagan, told him that they didn't want to alert people about to be raided by the emergency response team. I had a hearty laugh over that one. Anyone who has listened to police channels long enough will know that long before digital communication police never discussed such impending operations on the air. Once it was underway they might chatter about the location, & by then the yellow tape was up & the bad guys securely in custody. What the police are doing by shutting off their communications from the public is something else, that perhaps Lagan either didn't understand or did not want to speak about. Police are cutting off a source of intelligence gathering for organized crime. The reason I know is because I did the same thing for my own journalistic purposes. When I started covering the police beat here 15 years ago this month I learned very quickly that by listening to the scanner, & matching up bits of information from there to other sources, I could piece together stories that the police were not exactly forthcoming about. Journalists across the country did the same thing, & you can be sure that others with different motives were doing the same. Several years ago the RCMP made changes to their radio call-system as they put computers in police cruisers. Mounties no longer gave their names as they once did. They were given a series of numbers & letters that identified them both on the computer & to dispatchers. The RCMP's logic is simple. Organized crime, among them outlaw motorcycle gangs, were scanning RCMP airwaves to build intelligence profiles of the force, its operations & its officers. Raids on biker gang clubhouses (not here) have uncovered such files with photos, names, addresses & personal details of individual officers. The end of scanning police channels reflects not secrecy as much as an overall intelligence strategy. Police have never been dumb enough to broadcast drug raids, kick-ins by the heavily armed emergency task force or other such strategic information. But they were broadcasting enough information so that organized crime could piece together police tactics & formulate its own strategies in response. Drug busts & kick-ins are only a small part of policing. Today police use computer-based crime analysis to look at how small things add up to a much bigger picture. Whether it's organized crime or apparently isolated crimes that together show emerging trends, policing is now as much about intelligence gathering as enforcement. The question now is how long the digital silence will last. Sometime in the future someone will find a way to listen in again. The great game continues...

**Three Biker Gang Members Sent to Jail** – Dec 16, 2008 – *Germany* - Three German Hells Angels gang members will go to jail for the assault & robbery of rival gang members. The case is the largest of its kind in Germany. Besides the 3 Hells Angels members who will face jail, an additional 11 gang members were handed down suspended sentences on Tuesday, Dec. 16. The trial, which took place in the northern German city of Hanover under heavy security, is considered the largest Germany has ever seen. On the second day of the trial, defendants reached a plea bargain deal with prosecutors on charges of assaulting & robbing members of a rival gang. **Behind bars:** Three of the accused received respectively 34, 32, & 30-month prison sentences, AFP news agency reported, while the 11 others were handed two-year suspended prison sentences. The gang members were accused of raiding the headquarters of a rival gang, the Bandidos, in the town of Stuhr in March 2006, brutally beating 5 rival gang members & stealing money & a laptop computer, the court found. **Growing menace?** Earlier this year, the Interior Ministry in the southern state of Bavaria warned the Hells Angels were extending their sphere of influence into southern Germany. The motorcycle group, which has been linked to organized crime in many countries, has long been established in northern Europe. The Hells Angels have in the past been linked to dealing in illegal drugs & arms & to prostitution, protection rackets & money-laundering. The ministry said southern Germany was of increasing interest to the gang because of drug routes running through south-eastern Europe & the Balkans.

**Obsessions:** A psychiatrist was conducting a group therapy session with 4 young Mothers & their small children. 'You all have obsessions,' he observed. To the first mother, Mary, he said, 'You are obsessed with eating. You've even named your daughter Candy.' He turned to the second Mom, Ann: 'Your obsession is with money. Again, it manifests itself in your child's name, Penny.' He turned to the third Mom, Joyce: 'Your obsession is alcohol. This too shows itself in your child's name, Brandy.' At this point, the fourth mother, Kathy, quietly got up, took her little boy by the hand & whispered, 'Come on, Dick, we're leaving. Your brothers Peter & Willy are waiting for us.'

**A very good example of the kind of Representation we have in Congress:** A noted psychiatrist was a guest speaker at an academic function where Nancy Pelosi happened to appear. Ms Pelosi took the opportunity to schmooze the good doctor a bit & asked him a question with which he was most at ease. 'Would you mind telling me, Doctor,' she asked, 'how you detect a mental deficiency in somebody who appears completely normal?' 'Nothing is easier,' he replied. 'You ask a simple question which anyone should answer with no trouble. If the person hesitates, that puts you on the track.' 'What sort of question?' asked Pelosi. Well, you might ask, 'Captain Cook made 3 trips around the world & died during one of them. Which one?' Pelosi thought a moment, & then said with a nervous laugh, 'You wouldn't happen to have another example would you? I must confess I don't know much about history.'

**Truth is the torch** that gleams through the fog without dispelling it. - Claud-Adrian Helvetius

**It takes more intelligence** to make the complex simple, than to make the simple complex.

**It is better to Distrust people** we do not know, than to embrace them for what they appear.

**Biker Trial Abruptly Ends in Deal after Witness Balks** – Dec 16, 2008 – *Germany* - It was an attack marked by “extreme brutality,” investigators said. But now 14 Hell’s Angels members in Germany will receive reduced & suspended sentences after one of the accused changed his mind about providing testimony for the prosecution. The criminal trial of 14 Hell’s Angels members in the western German city of Hanover came to a quick & unexpected end only a day after it started. When the main witness for the prosecution refused to provide testimony, prosecutors offered a deal of reduced charges & suspended sentences that most of the accused accepted on Tue. Only a day earlier, the 14 defendants had been facing charges of armed robbery & dangerous bodily injury at Hanover’s district courthouse that could have led to stiff sentences. But these simple legal categories seem to sanitize what shocked investigators had called “extreme brutality.” According the prosecution, on March 22, 2006, the defendants in the case ambushed 5 members of a competing biker gang, the Bandidos, at a car repair shop in the town of Stuhr near Bremen. The Bandidos members were then restrained with tape, gagged & blindfolded. Over a period of hours, prosecutors say the Hell’s Angels then took their victims, one-by-one, for beating sessions that were perpetrated using a number of articles, including ax handles, which left serious wounds all over their bodies. One of the Bandidos was then forced at knifepoint to open the money box. To add insult to injury, the Bandidos were then robbed of their emblems, including jackets, clothes, wallets, belts & a number of patches. Lead public prosecutor Hansjürgen Schulz claimed that the aim of the Hell’s Angels’ attack was “to shut down the activities of the competing motorcycle gang in the area around Bremen.”

**A Deal Follows Doubts:** While the prosecution might have been confident that it knew what transpired on the day of the attack, that knowledge in no way guaranteed a successful conviction. The primary problem with the case was a lack of evidence. Although officials claim to have secured some DNA evidence from the crime scene, they have not been able to glean much from the vague statements of the victims about their masked attackers. Furthermore, although one of the accused -- whom court documents only identify as 32-year-old Thomas P. -- had provided information to prosecutors against his “brothers,” but in the end he refused to testify, despite his participation in a witness-protection program. Originally, Tuesday’s proceedings were also meant to include testimony by 2 police officers & the owner of the garage where the crime took place; but with their chief witness refusing to talk, prosecutors instead proposed a deal. The court offered to drop the robbery charges if the defendants pled guilty to the bodily injury charges. In addition, the court offered suspended sentences of up to 2 years for 11 of the 14 defendants. Under these terms, the remaining 3 suspects would face suspended sentences of up to 34 months on account of their previous criminal convictions. The longest potential sentence was reserved for the leader of the Hell’s Angels club “MC Westside Bremen,” who is alleged to have ordered the attack. Thirteen of the 14 defendants agreed to the prosecutor’s deal. Only Thomas K., who had previously cooperated with the police, chose not to agree to the deal, believing he merited a more lenient sentence because of his prior cooperation. The leading prosecutor admitted that K.’s decision to not provide testimony in court led his office to offer the deal. “Since the main prosecutor’s witness refused to provide testimony,” Schulz told the Associated Press, “we risked losing the whole case.”

**Escalating Turf War:** The current case is directly related to a trial that created headlines across Germany this spring. The common

element in the trials is Heino B., who was one of the 5 Bandidos allegedly attacked by the Hell’s Angels tried in the current case. The earlier trial found Heino B. & his fellow Bandido Thomas “Addi” K. guilty of shooting & killing Robert K., a 47-year-old Hell’s Angel, on May 23, 2007, in Ibbenbüren, a town just north of Münster. The 2 had believed that K. had been involved in the earlier assault on Bandidos & were seeking revenge. Both are now serving life sentences. The 2 attacks, though, are part of a string of violence in an escalating turf war between the rival German motorcycle gangs. Although the Hell’s Angels were the first biker gang in Germany, the Bandidos have been trying to expand since a German motorcycle club first joined the international Bandido community in Nov 1999. Though the rivalry is fed to some degree by the pursuit of honor & territory, there is considerable money involved as well. Both groups are active in the bouncer milieu, which gives them a large degree of control over the drug scenes in Germany’s clubs & discos. Other activities, which combine to generate several million euros in annual profits, include arms trading, gambling, protection rackets, bars & brothels. Furthermore, as the gangs become more established, they have also been able to extend their reach into more legitimate business activities. In Hanover, for example, the Hell’s Angels are believed to also be involved in real estate, beverage distribution companies & security firms. The regional criminal police force in the state of Lower-Saxony, which surrounds Bremen, has reported that the biker groups “act in a manner that is goal-oriented, systematic & marked by a division of labor” & have availed themselves of “top-class lawyers, PR professionals & other specialists” in their efforts to “hide illegal sources of income with legal activities.” The gangs also appear to be growing in terms of size & their degree of dangerousness. Germany’s Fed Office of Criminal Investigation (BKA) keeps records on 3,400 members of biker gangs in Germany spread out in 300 local branches. And, according to a 2005 study on Canada & Europe compiled by Europol, the European law-enforcement organization, 56% of Hell’s Angels members have been convicted for either assault or charges related to drugs or weapons. Law enforcement officials have failed to ban the gangs in Germany as a result of high legal hurdles requiring proof of involvement in criminal activities. Although they have succeeded in shutting down individual chapters, their members have usually merely migrated to other chapters or clubs. This war for dominance accounted for the high state of security at the proceedings in Hanover. Dozens of well-armed federal & state police officers used metal detectors & body searches to keep weapons from entering the courthouse & their presence to discourage the dozens of Hell’s Angels & Bandidos members gathered outside from openly confronting each other.

**Hells Angel guilty of assault** - Dec 17, 2008 – *California* - By Raul Hernandez - A Ventura County Superior Court jury on Tue found a member of the Hells Angels MC guilty of assault with a deadly weapon likely to cause great bodily injury in connection with a bar brawl in Newbury Park. Judge Kevin DeNoce set sentencing for Brandon Thomas Mundell for Jan. 28. Mundell, 28, a San Fernando Valley resident, is facing 9 years & 4 months in prison when he is sentenced. Mundell, who was out on bail, was taken into custody after the verdicts were read. Jurors also found Mundell committed the crime for the benefit of, in association with, & at the direction of the Hells Angels. Jurors also found true that the Hells Angels are a criminal street organization. Malan said that as far as he knows, this is only the second time that a California jury has found the Hells Angels were a criminal organization. He said the first time was in King County, where the Hells Angels’ Fresno Chapter was accused of assaulting with deadly weapons another MC in that city.

**They're not gone'** – Dec 17, 2008 – *Canada* – By Karena Walters & Grant LaFleche; Sun Media - Despite the arrests of Project Tandem, the Hells Angels still remain active in Niagara... Gerald Ward told the police everything. He told them about his drug deals worth tens of thousands of dollars. About the mind-numbing purity of his cocaine supply. About cracking down on losers trying to take a bite out of his business. He even told police how terrified cops were to come near his mighty fortress clubhouse in Welland. The leader of the local Hells Angels spilled his guts without knowing it. Steven Gault of the Oshawa chapter was wearing a wire. And what Gault heard, police heard. Ontario's joint-forces biker enforcement unit investigated the gang for 18 months. Surveillance. Phone taps. Raids. It was the first time in Canadian history an executive officer of the Hells Angels committed the greatest of outlaw biker sins: Ratting out the gang. For the Angels, it was the end of the road. "We had an overwhelming case; it was a crushing case & they folded," said federal prosecutor Tom Andreopoulos, legal team leader of the anti-organized crime unit in Toronto. "In my view, they were taken to the edge of the cliff & ultimately had nowhere else to go but to fall." Twenty-four people were charged. In less than two years, all of them, including 15 Hells Angels, have gone through the courts with guilty pleas or trials. Close to a record pace for major cases. This was no mundane drug sting. Police & the Crown were more ambitious than that. They were after the Hells Angels club itself. They had to prove it was a criminal organization. That meant in several trials, prosecutors had to demonstrate a main activity of the group was committing or facilitating serious crimes. The types that attract minimum five-year sentences. They focused on what Andreopoulos called the Hells Angels' true essence. The key to its success: A sophisticated structure designed for crime. For decades, the bikers have protested. They are misunderstood motorcycle fans with a club structure similar to something like Scouts Canada, they say. Restrictions on membership. Uniforms. Badges. Ranks. The difference is that Scouts Canada issues merit badges for tying knots, learning CPR or swimming. The Hells Angels have merit badges, too. When a biker murders someone with another Angel as witness, he gets one marked with the words "The Filthy Few." The badges are only part of it. There's the winged death head patch, & intelligence gathering on rivals & police. Weekly "church meetings" & membership that excludes anyone who's ever been a police officer or "man of colour." "The Hells Angels is like a syndicated formula or a franchise for success," Andreopoulos said. "They don't deliver coffees like Coffee Time, but they deliver cocaine." It all makes it very hard for a Hells Angel like Ward to claim his drug dealing has nothing to do with the gang. "No, it has everything to do with your business," Andreopoulos said. "That's why you've joined the Hells Angels, to allow you to do that." Across the province, police seized 10 kilograms of cocaine in the 2006 Project Tandem raids. Two kilograms of pure crystal methamphetamine, eight kilograms of marijuana & 50,000 pills of ecstasy. Those drugs poison communities. Addicts will do anything to get money for drugs. Break-ins & auto thefts are often about getting that \$40 for a half-gram of coke. "When people say organized crime doesn't affect me, that's where it does," said a local intelligence officer with the biker unit. "It affects insurance rates & everything else." The Niagara chapter was a snapshot of the national organization. One is part of the whole, Andreopoulos said. What was happening there was happening everywhere. A judge agreed. "The Hells Angels Motorcycle Club is an exceptionally well-organized, sophisticated corporate structure which would be the envy of many international corporations," Judge John McMahon said in September. He found Kenneth Wagner guilty of directing others

to act for a criminal organization. Ward's right-hand man was the first in Ontario convicted of the charge. But the linchpin was Ward himself, found guilty last Friday of the same criminal organization charge. He already pleaded guilty to trafficking cocaine & possessing \$304,430 in proceeds of crime. Ward & Wagner had almost \$500,000 cash between them. It was hidden in their homes with confidential police documents. A secret police report was also in the clubhouse. "Ward is the poster boy of all that it means to be a Hells Angel member," Andreopoulos said. "Fortress Niagara was one of the most formidable ones in Ontario." A local intelligence officer from the Ontario biker enforcement unit said without Gault's being a full patch member, they never would have got to Ward. The gang is built on trust. Most members don't reach the level of criminality required to join the Hells Angels until their 30s. Gault was already a member with a stamp of approval when he approached the Niagara gang. He was their brother. Wagner was jailed 11 years for the criminal organization, trafficking cocaine & possessing \$150,675 in proceeds of crime. Timothy Muise, Alain Lacroix & Richard Beaulieu all received jail time. Ward is scheduled to be sentenced in Feb. The Niagara chapter of the Hells Angels has been badly wounded, but not entirely wiped out. The head's been cut off, but the body is still breathing. With Ward & Wagner in prison, leadership fell to Tim Panetta, the last original member still standing. But even he is under pressure, facing criminal charges for illegally importing cars. "The Hells Angels Niagara chapter is self-perpetuating," said a local intelligence officer. It's a bit like pulling a bucket of water from the ocean. As soon as the bucket is removed, water rushes in to replace what's been taken. Commuter Hells Angels from Kitchener & Hamilton now keep the gang alive. The chapter still has the name. The rep. The patch. There are still addicts. There are still suppliers. There's still money to be made from the desperate & the deprived. "In the end, because it's a criminal organization, they will attempt to exist in the area," another officer said. "They're not gone."

**Bikie gang to be outlawed** – Dec 17, 2008 – *Australia* - The South Australian Council for Civil Liberties is calling for the Attorney-General to reject the Police Commissioner's application to make the Finks bikie club illegal. Chairman George Mancini says the process of making gangs illegal is secretive & unlikely to produce fair results. "The sort of information & intelligence that the police rely upon for this sort of stuff is not available to be tested for good reason, because it's sometimes bad, wrong or just rumour," he said. "It's very unclear, the whole process is secret, it's complicated, it's not transparent. "There are going to be individuals that'll be declared as members of such organisations, that'll be highly selective, possibly it won't target all of them, it'll be based on secret evidence." The Motorcycle Riders Association of South Australia says it fears all riders could soon be unfairly targeted under anti-bikie laws. Association president Phil McLelland says all motorcycle riders are being judged unfairly because of the Government's crackdown. "Scooter? You're fine. If you're on anything large, or if you're wearing leathers or if you wear black & have a helmet pulled down, you're seen as being a threat to somebody & to see the way people treat motorcyclists now because of the way that their image has been tarnished is a very sad state of affairs," he said. McLelland says police should use their traditional powers to target individuals they believe to be criminals. "If they have proof of that, then charge them with the offence for whatever act that they have broken," he said. "To tarnish all motorcyclists & to ban them as a group because the group is committing a group crime, that I have a problem with."

**Expert links shooting suspects to Mongols motorcycle gang** – Dec 17, 2008 – *California* – By Sean Garmire; Time-Standard - An expert on outlaw motorcycle gangs testified in court Tue, explaining that 3 of 4 men implicated in the non-fatal shooting of a suspected Hells Angels member appear to be patch-wearing Mongols gang members. Chris Cervantes, a Montebello police detective & ATF investigator, was brought from the Los Angeles area to provide expert testimony at a preliminary hearing for the men suspected of shooting 43-year-old Robert Thompson. Authorities have seized the men's property, including clothing reportedly emblazoned with the gang's logo & an application to join the Mongols MC - the ATF has labeled as the most "violent & dangerous" in the nation. On Nov. 8, authorities responded to shots fired on Third Street in downtown Eureka. There, police found Thompson lying in an intersection, bleeding from multiple gunshot wounds. Later that night, authorities located a dark-colored van, similar to one witnesses saw at the scene, & arrested Eric Gunner Lundin, 28, Dustin Liebes, 36, Brad Miller, 26, & Redding resident Eric Garcia, 28. Upon searching the van, investigators reportedly located a disassembled semi-automatic hand gun. The 4 have pleaded not guilty to charges of attempted murder, assault with a firearm & participating in a criminal street gang. Three of the suspects bear tattoos, which Cervantes said linked them to the gang. Lundin, Liebes & Garcia all have diamond-shaped "1%" tattoos inked on their necks. Lundin has the letters "MFFM" - tattooed on his knuckles, & has the traditional Mongol head on his chest & right arm. The Mongol head, a Genghis Khan look-alike wearing sunglasses, is also tattooed on Garcia's forearm. The letters "RFFN" - Respect Fear Fear Nothing - are displayed across Liebes' chest. Cervantes said that tattoo can only be worn if the member has committed violent acts against Hells Angels members.

**H-D stock** – Dec 17, 2008 – *USA* - Harley-Davidson's stock has been crushed over the last three months, losing more than 60% of its value. The iconic motorcycle company is dealing with a challenging economic environment & consumers who are less willing to make major expenditures, especially on non-essential purchases. When evaluating H-D, it is easy to see that the stock is at very depressed levels compared to its historical norms; however, it may be some time before H-D's underlying fundamentals levitate undervalued shares. First of all, we rate H-D undervalued because its price has fallen very rapidly. Even though the company's fundamentals -- such as sales & earnings -- are showing weakness, they have not deteriorated so much as to warrant this big of a price drop. When looking at the stock from a long-term perspective -- in this case 10 years -- H-D is selling well below historically normal valuation ranges. For example, over the last 10 years, the stock has normally traded in a price-to-sales range of 1.95 times to 3.2 times but, as of the most recent sales results, the stock is trading at just 0.7 times. Furthermore, the company has normally traded in the price-to-cash flow range of 9.8 times to 16.4 times, yet its current price-to-cash flow is only 3.9 times. Rarely do we find these metrics at such depressed levels compared to historical precedents, even in this market! H-D pays a substantial dividend -- 8% plus yield -- & that dividend appears safe for now. Also, H-D has recently reaffirmed its earnings estimate for the full fiscal year to come in at just above \$3 per share. So, the company is trading at a P/E of just over five. It is easy to see why the company is buying back stock, it's extremely cheap! However, it is always important to resist looking at valuations in a vacuum. After a little bit of digging, we found sufficient reason to be cautious in recommending this stock. In addition to a weak consumer discretionary spending environment, the company's financial services branch has

significant exposure to so-called "subprime loans". An industry report states that as many as one third of loans outstanding from H-D financial services branch have gone to borrowers with suspect credit history. It seems that as the consumer spending environment started to slacken, H-D began offering loans with interest rates as low as 3% or sometimes without making the borrower put money down on purchases. These are not the sort of sales we were hoping to see factored into our ratings methodology. This sort of activity prompted Business Week to claim that Harley financial services operated, "in a pattern eerily similar to the housing bust." Now we know that in the last quarter, the company reported \$6.3 million in write downs for loan defaults. We do not want to overreact to a few million dollars in loan losses because -- in the grand scheme of things -- this is relatively small amount. However, if there is anything that we have learned from the misery of the last year, it is that credit crises of this sort take time to fully unwind. There are far too many good companies with solid fundamentals that truly warrant our undervalued rating & that do not have this potential liability for us to recommend H-D. When you combine the potential credit issues confronting the stock & the fact that consumer spending is expected to be weak for at least the next two quarters, we do not recommend buying H-D shares right now. Although the valuation of H-D looks quite appealing based on what the market has traditionally paid for the shares, we think that there is ample reason to be cautious. You may be able to buy these shares even lower in the coming quarters.

**Biker wanted police 'watching my back'** - Dec 17, 2008 – *Canada* - A Hells Angel told the cop he was sharing info with he'd alert the officer of any threats & expected the same in return, a jury has heard. The unusual pact is described in notes made by a Durham police officer who had conversations with Remond (Ray) Akleh in 2003. Akleh, on trial in Whitby along with Oshawa Hells Angels president Mark Stephenson, has testified he talked to the officer after several clashes with bikers in Oshawa led him to fear for his life. "I believed I had somebody watching my back," Akleh testified in Superior Court Tuesday morning. Akleh & Stephenson have pleaded not guilty to conspiring to commit murder & counseling to commit murder, charges arising out of what the Crown alleges was a plot to kill a Woodbridge biker with ties to the rival Bandidos gang. The Crown's key witness in this trial was Steven Gault, a police agent who infiltrated the Oshawa Angels to gather info about drug dealing among bikers.

**Letter to the Editor** – Dec 17, 2008 – *Canada* - *Let's turn biker clubhouse into tourist attraction...* By Kevin Folk from Whitby - With the Hells Angel's clubhouse now owned by the community & what seems like a cult following coming for pictures, I think this would be a great tourist attraction. The Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce should think about opening up the house to the public, possibly as a biker museum or maybe using it as a kickoff spot for countless rides for charity. I am interested in touring the house & I'm sure thousands from around the Golden Horseshoe & beyond would pay a small fee to see the inside of a small piece of iconic history. It sure would be a tourist boost for an ailing economy in Oshawa as it would be a destination for countless bikers out for their Sunday rides. Let's embrace this & turn what was once used for organized crime into legitimate profit for the community.

**Woman begins** by resisting a man's advances & ends by blocking his retreat. -Oscar Wilde

**Judge Refuses To Overturn Ex-Outlaws Leader's Sentence** – Dec 18, 2008 – *Tampa, Florida* - By Elaine Silvestrini; Tampa Tribune - The former international leader of the Outlaws MC lost a bid Tuesday to have his life sentence set aside. U.S. District Judge James Moody issued an order denying a motion by an attorney for Harry "Taco" Bowman requesting that Moody overturn Bowman's sentence for his conviction in Tampa in 2001 on conspiracy, racketeering & drug charges. The defense claimed federal prosecutors withheld information they were required to turn over to the defense before Bowman's trial. However, Moody ruled the prosecution didn't have information the defense said it had about "snitches." After Bowman's conviction, federal officials in Tampa prosecuted his successor, James Lee "Frank" Wheeler. Experts say the motorcycle club, which has 1,100 to 1,500 members nationwide, has regrouped. Florida is said to be one of the club's strongholds.

**Motorcycle clubs get into the Christmas spirit** – Dec 18, 2008 – *Texas* – By Ildefonso Ortiz; Brownsville Herald - Members of 2 motorcycle clubs are taking off their leather jackets & replacing them with red furry hats as they collect toys & clothes for needy families in Matamoros. Manuel Montes, a Brownsville police officer & spokesman for the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of the Iron Pigs MC, said his club is working with the Wild Riders to rally support from residents of Brownsville to help some of the poorest families in the region. "These people are the poorest of the poor," Montes said. "These are families that are living on less than \$100 a month. These children get their toys, clothes & sometimes even food from the landfill." The group is collecting donations of new & used toys, as well as clothes. The toys & other items will be presented to the families on Dec. 22 in Matamoros. The bikers asked residents to avoid donating battery-operated toys. "They (the needy families) probably wouldn't be able to afford batteries," Montes said. The Cameron County District Attorney's Office has pitched in support for the event & even has set up collection boxes at the Cameron County Courthouse. Iron Pigs is a national motorcycle club made up mostly of law enforcement personnel. Wild Riders, a local motorcycle club, includes mostly businessmen & contractors. Montes said that contrary to popular belief, that most bike clubs aren't a criminal element in society. "There is a magic number we use," the biker said. "Out of all bikers, 99% are respectable people; only 1% are involved in criminal activity. The club does not associate with them."

**Suspected Mongols accept plea agreement** – Dec 18, 2008 – *California* – By Sean Garmire; Times-Standard - Members of the Mongols biker gang implicated in the shooting of a suspected Hells Angel in early Nov have all accepted plea agreements offered by the Humboldt County district attorney. In the agreement offered on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the preliminary hearing, 3 of 4 men admitted to participating in a criminal street gang -- an outcome that sets new precedent for prosecutors in Humboldt County, potentially easing legal efforts against gang members in the future. Eric Gunner Lundin, the 28-year-old who shot Robert Thompson outside The Shanty in Old Town Eureka, pleaded no contest to felony charges of assault with a firearm & participating in a criminal street gang. Lundin now faces between two & three years in prison at his sentencing Jan. 15. Dustin Liebes, 36, & Eric Garcia, 28, both pleaded no contest to the felony charge of participation in a criminal street gang, & 26-year-old Brad Miller -- whom investigators believe was attempting to become a member of the gang -- pleaded no contest to being an accessory after the fact. Those three men face up to one year in jail or one year probation at the Jan. 15 sentencing. Deputy District Attorney

Ben McLaughlin, who prosecuted the case, said he intends to request the sentencing judge prohibit the men from associating with other gang members, which would legally bar the men from each other's company. McLaughlin called the outcome "appropriate," after facts in the Nov. 7 shooting incident surfaced late in the investigation showing 43-year-old Thompson may have fired the 1<sup>st</sup> shot. Eureka Police Detective Todd Wilcox said when authorities arrived at the scene of the shooting they found a .22-caliber handgun with one spent shell lying next to Thompson. McLaughlin said Thompson, a convicted sex offender & kidnapper, refused to provide testimony at the men's trial, & declined ownership of the gun. Chris Cervantes, a Montebello police detective & ATF investigator working the outlaw biker gang unit, said no matter who fired first, the shooting was a gang-related act, & it was appropriate for the men to be prosecuted. "A gun is a tool of a gang. It's a sign of power -- it's a sign of respect," Cervantes said. "There's no self-defense there." Cervantes was flown to Humboldt County to provide expert testimony about the Mongols street gang, which the U.S. ATF has labeled the most "violent & dangerous" in the nation. The gang has between 500 & 600 members in chapters throughout the United States, as well as Canada & Italy. Cervantes said following a Tuesday night intelligence briefing that he believes there are Mongols chapters in Eureka & elsewhere in Humboldt County. But for the most part, he said, the entire Eureka chapter is now in jail, & there appears to be only a small Mongol presence in the region. The Mongols organization is led by a mother chapter, which operates out of Southern California. The long-standing rivalry between the Hells Angels & the Mongols began decades ago over disputes about similarities between patches worn by the two gangs. But the violence has escalated over the years into a bloody gang war. McLaughlin said jail recordings have shown Lundin has requested attorney fees from the mother chapter, & Wilcox said recordings show others have attempted to communicate with Mongols members outside of jail. Ultimately, Cervantes said the men's admission has bolstered law enforcement's battle against the outlaw biker gang. Leaders of the organization call the group the Mongols MC. The group organizes rides that distribute toys to children, operates in accordance to a constitution & requires new prospective members fill out an application. The seemingly legitimate exterior made it difficult in the past for authorities to legally establish the Mongols are, in fact, a gang, Cervantes said. With Wed's conviction, authorities will have greater power prosecuting members of biker gangs in Humboldt County, Cervantes said. "We went into some uncharted grounds here in Eureka," he said. "It's far more successful that the gang allegations were sustained rather than these guys getting more time."

**"The right of a citizen to bear arms**, in lawful defense of himself or the State, is absolute. He does not derive it from the State government. It is one of the high powers" delegated directly to the citizen, & is excepted out of the general powers of government.' A law cannot be passed to infringe upon or impair it, because it is above the law, & independent of the lawmaking power." - *Cockrum v. State*, 24 Tex. 394, at 401-402 (1859)

#### **If You See A Fat Man...**

Who's jolly and cute,  
Wearing a beard and a red flannel suit,  
And if he is chuckling and laughing away,  
While flying around in a miniature sleigh,  
With eight tiny reindeer to pull him along,  
Then let's face it... Your eggnog's too strong!  
Merry Christmas and a Happy 2009...

**Metro gang strike force appoints a new leader** - Dec 19, 2008 - *Minnesota* - By Lora Pabst; StarTribune - Twin Cities area gang members will have another face to look out for now that a new leader has been appointed to the metro gang strike force. Capt. Chris Omodt, who is currently with the Hennepin County Sheriff's Department, was selected by the strike force's board to lead the group. Earlier this year, Cmdr. Ron Ryan announced his retirement after 11 years leading the state & metro gang strike force. Officers from the strike force are often called upon to assist in investigations involving gang members. This fall, the strike force had 34 officers from 14 different agencies. Omodt has been a police officer since he started with the Edina PD in 1983. He has been with the sheriff's Dept for 17 years, most recently supervising jail operations. He has also been the commander of the Minnesota Financial Crimes Task Force. The metro gang strike force was created in 1997 to combat gang violence at a time when Minneapolis homicide numbers were soaring.

**What's it like ... pumping iron with Hulk Hogan & a Hell's Angel?** - Dec 19, 2008 - *Maryland* - By Ron Cassie - In the early 90s, Irv Dickstein was an executive in Southern California with a hair restoration company. He had a natural thick, curly crop & always kept in shape, figuring it was part of selling a youthful, vigorous image. He pumped iron at Big Bucks, a gym in Woodland Hills named after the local stuntman who owned the place. "I traded the company's service for a membership," said Dickstein, now 70 & a personal trainer at Fitness First on West Patrick Street. "It was an exclusive club, (with) a lot of celebrities who didn't want to be bothered. "So, one day I'm in there & I see this guy. I say to an employee at the desk, 'You gotta be kidding me, look at this guy, he thinks he's Hulk Hogan. "Except, he was too much Hulk Hogan -- like he was in character -- like a cartoon figure," Dickstein said. "He had the bandanna, the whole nine yards, except he looked smaller than what you see on television. I can't believe it. I'm telling the guy at the desk, I feel sorry for this character, I'm embarrassed for him -- like 'Get a life, buddy.' "The desk guy finally gets me to shut up & he says, 'Irv, that is Hulk Hogan'." Hogan & Dickstein became training partners & friends. Today, Dickstein, who can still bench press 80-pound dumbbells a dozen times, is happy to share the knowledge he picked up as a teen at Abe Goldberg's gym in Manhattan. Although, "happy" might be the wrong word for Dickstein. Once a wise guy, always a wise guy. "People ask me all the time, 'Irv, is it too late to start getting in shape?'" he said. "I tell them, 'Yes it's too late. You should've started a long time ago.' It's like saving for your retirement, you can't start when you're 50, 60 years old." After Dickstein & Hogan began lifting together, spotting each other and trading training tips, they eventually took their motorcycles out, too. "I was into bikes then," Dickstein says. "Of course, he was a pain in the (expletive) to ride with. He had this yellow bike with flames, as if he really needed to draw attention to himself. He looked like an action figure & he'd get surrounded by fans at every traffic light. Hogan, Dickstein says, was a good friend & intense in the gym. He did brutal, mass-building weightlifting exercises, but never went heavy-heavy, preferring grueling sets of high repetitions. "He'd go well 300-pounds plus on the bench, but not 400, & knock out sets of 12-15 reps with very little rest in between. He did the same thing with squats, deadlifts, all the different parts of the body. He had a plan every day he came in. "He considered the gym his office & he was serious, except when he was with his kids, who were little then." Hogan headed to Hawaii after he signed a deal to make a long-forgotten television series, "Thunder in Paradise." For Dickstein, a gym buff since his Brooklyn days & Mr. North America 1948, Hogan was not his only brush with B-list

celebrities. Among his clients over the years were Erik Estrada, Frankie Valle, David Cassidy & Bob Barker. He helped sponsor a big Orange County bodybuilding competition one year, met Lou Ferrigno (the first non-animated Incredible Hulk), & became good friends with Rachel McLish -- the woman who put female bodybuilding on the map. In the late 80s, Dickstein lifted with Hell's Angel founding member Sonny Barger at a gym in Oakland owned by the Angels. "We got very tight for a time," Dickstein said. "He was a genius with business. And he mastered the arts of controlling some of the worst people around." Like Hogan, Barger was a family man who doted on his grandchildren," Dickstein said. "He had a little girl's pink bicycle in the back of his minivan the first time I walked out to the parking lot with him." Barger's vocal cords had been removed by then, after a laryngectomy following his diagnosis with throat cancer. That didn't stop him from smoking. "He'd come around the corner & have a cigarette dangling from the middle of his neck," Dickstein said. The two worked out for about a year & a half, Dickstein said. "Then he went to jail, which I think he knew was coming." Barger spent four years in prison for conspiring to blow up the clubhouse of a rival motorcycle club. Dickstein avoids sugar, processed food, smoking & heavy alcohol use, so he doesn't think cancer or high blood pressure will get him. "Montgomery County drivers, that's what is going to kill me," he said. "One day, probably when I'm in my 80s or maybe 90, I'm going to jump out of my car & go after one of those punks who cuts me off on 270. I'll probably have a heart attack from the adrenaline & die on the spot, which -- all things considered -- would be a fine way to go to me."

**The IRS decides to audit Grandpa**, & summons him to the IRS office... The IRS auditor was not surprised when Grandpa showed up with his attorney. The auditor said, "Well, sir, you have an extravagant lifestyle & no full-time employment, which you explain by saying that you win money gambling. I'm not sure the IRS finds that believable." I'm a great gambler, & I can prove it," says Grandpa. "How about a demonstration?" The auditor thinks for a moment & said, "Okay. Go ahead." Grandpa says, "I'll bet you a thousand dollars that I can bite my own eye." The auditor thinks a moment & says, "It's a bet." Grandpa removes his glass eye & bites it. The auditor's jaw drops. Grandpa says, "Now, I'll bet you two thousand dollars that I can bite my other eye." Now the auditor can tell Grandpa isn't blind, so he takes the bet. Grandpa removes his dentures & bites his good eye. The stunned auditor now realizes he has wagered & lost three grand, with Grandpa's attorney as a witness. He starts to get nervous. "Want to go double or nothing?" Grandpa asks. "I'll bet you six thousand dollars that I can stand on one side of your desk, & pee into that wastebasket on the other side, & never get a drop anywhere in between." The auditor, now twice burned, is cautious now, but he looks carefully & decides there's no way this old guy could possibly manage that stunt, so he agrees again. Grandpa stands beside the desk & unzips his pants, but although he strains mightily, he can't make the stream reach the wastebasket on the other side, so he pretty much urinates all over the auditor's desk. The auditor leaps with joy, realizing that he has just turned a major loss into a huge win. But Grandpa's attorney moans & puts his head in his hands. "Are you okay?" the auditor asks. "Not really," says the attorney. "This morning, when Grandpa told me he'd been summoned for an audit, he bet me twenty-five thousand dollars that he could come in here & pee all over your desk, & that you'd be happy about it."

**Those who hammer their guns** into plows will plow for those who do not. - Thomas Jefferson

**Bride Describes Chapel Biker Brawl** - Dec 21, 2008 – *Las Vegas, Nevada* - When violence erupted between two rival biker gangs, A Special Memory Wedding Chapel turned into a scary place for a just married bride. “Well I ran to the kids & tried to get them out the way. They were going this way & that way, so I ran & grabbed the kids. Next thing you know there was blood all over the place,” said newlywed Lavelle Lane. Lane had just exchanged vows & was filling out paperwork with her husband. The ceremony following hers, reportedly included members of one of the biker gangs. Metro says the rival gang entered the chapel & an argument ensued. “Right now, this is just one of those things that just happened. Hopefully there will be no other problems,” said Lieutenant Rich Fletcher. Metro believes it was members of the Hells Angels & Mongols who crossed paths inside the chapel. They say the physical fight involved up to twenty people. Two people involved in the fight were reportedly stabbed. Their injuries are not believed to be life threatening. Metro tells us they are looking for numerous suspects. They will not say who the suspects are possibly affiliated with. There is no word of any arrests as of Saturday night.

**Mongol Member says he was attacked** - Dec 22, 2008 – *Las Vegas, Nevada* - As Metro investigates a Saturday night knife fight between two rival biker gangs at a downtown wedding chapel, one of the victims is speaking out about the attack. The man, who’s identity we’re keeping anonymous, is a Mongol. He says he was at ‘A Special Memory Wedding Chapel’ to get married, when he came face to face with members of the Hells Angels. “We were friggen attacked, & we defended ourselves the best we could. It’s real hard to do when you’re outnumbered that bad, but that’s alright. Mongol on,” he said Sunday afternoon, after being released from surgery. He tells us he was stabbed in the stomach three times, & his best man was also stabbed during the ordeal. According to him, the Hells Angels were just wrapping up a ceremony, as he was walking into the lobby with his fiancée. “I’d like to say, the police & certain people are putting it out there that we did something wrong. That’s not what it is. I came here to get married. I didn’t even know that other people were here,” he said. Meantime, the chapel’s owner says it was just bad luck that both rival gangs had weddings scheduled within the same hour. “There’s 100,000 weddings a year in Las Vegas & how many across the world. To have two groups that close together, I think that’s very odd,” said Joshua Gust.

**Drive-By Shooting** – Dec 22, 2008 – *Australia* - Five people have escaped injury after yet another drive-by shooting in Sydney’s south-west, the latest in a spate of incidents believed to be linked to warring bikie gangs. A number of shots were fired at a house in Hewison Ave, Green Valley, about 11pm, police said. Five people who were inside the house heard the gunfire & walked outside where they found a number of spent cartridges & damage to the outside of the house, police said. They called relatives, who called police. Police were looking in the neighbourhood for anyone who might have seen the attack. The shooting is the latest in a string of drive-by shootings in Sydney in recent weeks. Last Thursday a three-year-old boy was grazed, apparently by a ricocheting bullet, when shots were fired at his family’s Blacktown home. NSW Premier Nathan Rees last week expressed disgust at the attacks. “I’m absolutely sick to death of this,” he said. “I won’t say too much because the matter is currently being investigated by the police, but out in western Sydney there’s been a bit of activity between a couple of different bikie gangs. “That’s what’s underpinning it.”

**Enjoy life:** This not a rehearsal.

**Bikies fighting ‘like little girls’** – Dec 22, 2008 – *Australia* - Outlaw motorcycle gangs have been accused of “fighting like little girls” by a top cop fed up with an outbreak of violence. A war has erupted between the Rebels & Bandidos that has led to 13 drive-by shootings since October, including one in which the wrong house was sprayed with bullets as a family slept inside. The police spray came as yet another home -in Green Valley, western Sydney - was peppered with bullets during a drive-by overnight. Police today said five people inside the Hewison Avenue house heard the volley of gunfire & ventured outside to find a number of spent cartridges & damage to the exterior of the home. With three men badly injured, both the gangs & police fear it is only a matter of time before someone is killed, possibly an innocent member of the public. Directorate, Detective Chief Superintendent Ken McKay, said in an exclusive interview: “It’s just the lowest level of cowardly acts to drive past a place in the middle of the night & spray it with bullets. Don’t forget a lot of these places contain children & women.” **The Conflict:** The bullets are flying, they are turning their homes into fortresses or spending the night at safe houses - even the bikies want the fighting to stop. But leaders of the Rebels, the gang accused of starting a war that is tearing Sydney’s motorcycle underworld apart, are not only refusing to negotiate a peace deal, they have ordered their members not to back down. In an exclusive interview with The Daily Telegraph, Detective Chief Superintendent Ken McKay, head of the State Crime Command’s Organised Crime Directorate, revealed members of both the Rebels & their rivals the Bandidos are worried by the escalating violence & want police to broker a truce before someone is killed. But he accused The Rebels’ senior leadership - including its national president Alex Vella - of refusing to negotiate with either police or rival gangs. The feud has already resulted in 13 drive-by shootings in Sydney’s west & southwest since the Rebels made their “call to action” in Oct. Earlier this month, a family of six in Sadlier was lucky to escape injury after their home was shot at by mistake. The intended target was believed to be a Rebels bikie member who lived in the same street. Other bikie gangs, including the Bandidos, had agreed to speak to police about ending the violence & even the Rebels were split, with some telling police they wanted a ceasefire but they were “forbidden” by the top members. “I have had a meeting with senior members of other outlaw motorcycle gangs & spoken to others. All the other groups spoken to want the conflict to cease,” said Chief Supt McKay. “The Rebels’ senior members refused to come to any meeting with police.” The spate of violence has left two gang members shot, & one remains in hospital critically injured.

**‘Outlaw bikies snatching loan trade’** - Dec 22, 2008 – *Australia* - By Ellen Lutton - New laws to control high-interest-loan businesses in Queensland have driven the industry underground, with outlaw motorcycle gangs now running exorbitant “payday lending” practices, an industry insider has alleged. Pawnbrokers Industry Federation former president David Poole, who owns Ashgrove Cash Exchange in north-west Brisbane, said the State Government’s 48 per cent interest rate cap on consumer credit loans had put more than 200 loan centres out of business in the past six months. As a result, the industry had been driven into the hands of bikies. Queensland Police have refused to comment on the claim, citing operational sensitivities. However, it is understood the state’s Outlaw Motor Cycle Gang (OMCG) Taskforce, codenamed Hydra, is investigating.

**Some of us are like** a 10 speed bike; most of us have gears we never use.” - Joe Eigo

**Hells Angels show their halos** – Dec 22, 2008 – *New York* - By Tom Caprood - The sisters of St. Colman's were given an early Christmas Saturday morning when members from a Troy chapter of a nationally-known motorcycle club donated a trailer full of toys & a check for \$2,700 to the Haswell Road children's home. Several riders from the Hells Angels Nomads chapter drove up to the home for orphaned, emotionally challenged & autistic children in biker jackets & Santa hats as they towed a large white trailer which was filled with bags of Christmas toys. Children called down from their bedroom windows to ask if it was all really for them. Ted Baldwin, one of the bikers who delivered the toys, said that the group had been donating off & on to St. Colman's & other locations around the holidays since 1990 but decided to publicize their donation for the first time this year. "With the economy in bad shape, we figured that maybe we could be an example to other people & show them that even though things are bad, they can still do things for others," said Baldwin. "We just wanted to let people know that we are doing this kind of stuff & are hoping that somebody else will do something similar." The building's lobby was quickly filled with a large pile of toys which included everything from small musical keyboards to skateboards & stuffed animals as the Hell's Angels greeted the sisters & wished them a happy holiday. Sister Mary Stephen Vamosy stood with a gleaming smile on her face along with Sister Mary Dominica as the two of them watched the bikers unload their donation & present them with the additional monetary donation. "I think it's unbelievable that they brought this much — it blew us away this morning," said Vamosy, who noted that the sisters planned to wrap & separate the gifts so that each of the home's children would have a gift to open on Christmas day or when they returned after the holiday. "I just hope that we can wrap them all before they (the children) come down & raid the room." The Hells Angels raised the money & collected the toys during a recent sit-down dinner which they held in Rensselaer for the entire local biking community. "One kid won the 50/50 raffle & threw his share of the money right back in for the sisters here," said Baldwin. Bert Kittel, a fellow biker, said that the group often tries to help out members of the community when they are able to do so. "We all got it tough but there's always someone who's got it tougher," said Kittel, who hoped people would see the bikers' good side. "A lot of time the motorcycle community gets a bad rap in our opinion, but all we can ask is that you match what we do here," said Kittel. "Like us, hate us, or whatever, but we do what we feel we've got to — sometimes we get in trouble for it, but hopefully it balances out." According to Vamosy, there are currently 15 children planning to spend their holiday in the facility, with additional children from St. Colman's autistic program home with their families & more than 100 children enrolled in the organization's day care program.

**Car Accident:** One day, while a blonde was out driving her car, she ran into a truck. The truck's driver made her pull over into a parking lot & get out of the car. He took a piece of chalk & drew a circle on the pavement. He told her to stand in the middle & not leave the circle. Furious, he went over to her car & slashed the tires. The blonde started laughing. This made the man angrier so he smashed her windshield. This time the blonde laughed even harder. Livid, the man broke all her windows & keyed her car. The blonde is now laughing hysterically, so the truck driver asks her what's so funny. The blonde giggles & replies, "When you weren't looking, I stepped out of the circle 3 times!"

National Coalition of Motorcyclists...  
An Idea Whose Time Has Come...

**Motorcycle crash at charity event** – Dec 22, 2008 – *Arizona* - 3 motorcycles, including 2 ridden by police officers, were involved in a crash Sunday near Maricopa during a charity event. None of the injuries was life-threatening, Maricopa police Sgt. Stephen Judd said. One officer had a broken elbow that will require surgery & the other had a severely dislocated shoulder. Both of them had scrapes & bumps. The injuries to the civilian rider were unclear, but Judd said they were minor. Judd said it's unclear who was at fault in the crash. He said all 3 involved were lucky that they weren't more seriously hurt, & that the safety equipment they were wearing may have saved their lives. The crash occurred during the W. Steven Martin Toy Run. Martin, reached on his cell phone, said nearly 400 motorcyclists rode in the toy run from Chandler to Maricopa. "There's just concern anytime you have someone go down on a bike, much less for a charity event like this," said Martin, a longtime Valley disc jockey. "You get really concerned." Martin said he was riding in the front & didn't go faster than 35 mph the whole way, adding that the bikes involved in the crash couldn't have been going that fast.

**Hells Angels juror says chaos at scene hurt case** – Dec 22, 2008 – *Sioux Falls, South Dakota* - One of the jurors who acquitted two Hells Angels bikers of attempted murder says factors that influenced the verdict included people being led by emotion and a conflict in the state's evidence. After deliberating over three days, the Sioux Falls jury found Chad Wilson of San Diego and John Midmore of Valparaiso, Ind., not guilty of sparking a 2006 gunfight at Custer State Park. Three Outlaws MC members and two women with them were injured. Midmore is out on bail, but Wilson is charged in federal court with a gun crime. The juror talked to The Associated Press on condition his name not be used out of fear of reprisals. The state still wants to try the men on a conspiracy charge but the judge hasn't ruled on that.

**Hells Angels grant teen's wish** – Dec 22, 2008 – *South Carolina* – By Jessica Foster - A Surfside Beach teenager's Christmas wish came true Saturday, and in a big way. Valerie Paras, a 17-year-old who suffers from cystic fibrosis, not only got to ride on the back of a Harley-Davidson motorcycle like she wanted, she also got to lead a pack of hundreds of bikes that participated in the Horry County ABATE club's annual Toys for Kids event. A group of about a dozen leather-clad Hell's Angels MC members picked her up from home. She posed for a group photo before taking off, a little nervous about her first ride, she said. She wasn't disappointed. After arriving at Inlet Square for the toy run, she said the trip was probably one of best - and breeziest - Christmas presents she could have gotten. "I could feel air in my shoes," she said.

**Important Public Service Announcement:** The term "Nigger Rigged" is no longer acceptable effective immediately. It will now be referred to as a "Presidential Solution".  
Thank You, The United States Government

**Sheriff's Job Interview:** A man seeking to join an East Texas Sheriff's Dept is being interviewed. The Deputy doing the interview says: "Your qualifications all look good, but there is an attitude suitability test that you must take before you can be accepted." Then, sliding a service pistol across the desk, he says: "Take this pistol & go out & shoot six illegal aliens, six meth dealers, six Muslim extremists, & a rabbit." "Why the rabbit?" "Great attitude," says the Sergeant. "When can you start?"

*Happy New Years from  
Mike, Kari, and Ciera...*