



NCOM – National Coalition Of Motorcyclists / AIM - Aid for Injured Motorcyclists
AIM / NCOM - Free Legal And Legislative Consultation

Free All Brothers Behind Bars...

Editor: Mike Davis SFFS...

The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work
And give to those who would not. - Thomas Jefferson

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Thanks goes to **Road Scholar Big Paul** from *Georgia* for his \$ 20.00 donation...

Thanks goes to Two Friends that made anonymous donations, one of whom is a **Road Scholar**...

A Big Thank You goes to the **Prairie Rattlers MC** from *North Dakota* for becoming the newest sponsor of this newsletter. They have given me a check for \$ 250.00; Plus the \$ 50.00 earlier for One Year sponsorship at \$ 25.00 a month... Thank You!!!

In Memory of **Pagan Big Foot 13**... May He Rest In Peace...

In Memory of **Outlaw Stairway Harry**... May He Rest In Peace...

Welcome **Fink Troy** to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter mailing list...

Welcome **Bandido Tony** to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter mailing list...

Welcome **Diablo Fat Dog** to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter mailing list...

Welcome **Hells Outcast Pinner** to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter mailing list...

Welcome **Forsaken Few Roadrat** to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter mailing list...

Welcome **Sons Of Silence Doc Retired** to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter mailing list...

Welcome **Liberty Rider Downtown** and **Liberty Rider Buck** to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter mailing list...

The Loss Of Pagan's MC Big Foot 13 - January 2009 – *Pagan's Nation* - Big Foot 13, was liked and respected by both his Club and other Clubs that had contact with him... A man with great people skills that were demonstrated time and time again, when he was the National Vice President of the Pagan Nation...

The Loss Of Outlaws MC Stairway Harry – January 2009 – *Outlaws Nation* – Stairway Harry was a 42 year member of the Outlaws MC and was the National President of the Outlaws MC about 30 years ago... Stairway Harry was a Very Respected Member of the Outlaws MC Nation and will be missed...

Thank You message from Outlaw Milwaukee Jack – January 2009 – *Outlaws Nation* – Milwaukee Jack and the Outlaws Nation would like to Thank the Bandidos Nation, Bandidos Nomads, Iron Horsemen Nation, and the Sons Of Silence Nation for sending their condolences and Flowers to Outlaw Stairway Harry's Funeral Services...

Local toy drives call for help – Dec 23, 2008 - *Oakland, California* – by Cecilia Vega - Santa didn't have a sleigh, but he did have a couple of wagons & his Oakland firefighter buddies to help deliver toys to children in the pediatric ward of Kaiser Hospital on Tuesday. It's the final hours of the Christmas toy drive season & around the Bay Area, everyone is pitching in --

from the authorities to the Hells Angels, who on Monday in San Francisco dropped off an entire truckload of toys for needy children. "There's a part that really gets you right in the heart because you now that these kids are sick, pretty sick," said Captain Tony Perez from the Oakland Fire Dept.

What Is Road Scholars? Road Scholars, is designed & intended to be a meeting place on the web for bikers, & like minded people, to meet, exchange ideas, view news related to the lifestyle or otherwise of interest, & enjoy a sense of camaraderie & support such as is possible in this setting. This is intended to be as neutral a setting as is possible with a great deal of emphasis on giving or showing a proper amount of respect where it is due. No disrespect should be shown towards anyone's affiliation or association on this board. There are several different philosophies & ideologies on this board & no one would be expected to agree with all of them but we certainly feel that at least in this setting for the sake of having an open dialog & some form or semblance of harmony that we can at least accept that another is here or failing that just not acknowledge there comments. It serves no good purpose to disrespect or slander anyone's name here & for any good that's accomplished it makes it hard to overcome. I have no illusions as to there never being any problems again as I'm sure that somewhere, sometime as is the nature of the beast it will raise its ugly head again. If you've been so fortunate as to have never experienced a period of time when alot of this "Respect" was being established I can assure you it's nothing you'd be anxious to see happen again. We have so many other enemies out there who's very intent is to wipe out our existence that it would be good to see us concentrate our efforts in a little more unified effort towards them rather than each other. My intent if I am to have one is to put personalities behind names & to give some of those who we have never met a face so to speak or a personality that we might draw on first when we hear that so & so did this, or said that, we may stop for a second & think to ourselves, you know that really doesn't sound like Wolf, or whomever & maybe just maybe we will think & find out for sure before we react. I can't say everyone I know will embrace this idea, probably not, I can't say all of you will. I have no idea, but as I can assure you that as I only speak for myself, I can go out on my own limb & say I'm saying this & I'm trying this & if it works that's great & if it doesn't then I can say with a clear conscience that I tried. Its not about kindness being a weakness, its about too many good Brothers are dead or in prison & I for one would like to see that stopped or greatly slowed down. That's why I'm here & that's why I do this. I love the Board & love the friendships & trusts Ive gained from it. I hope you all do too; all it takes is a little effort & some respect. I appreciate your listening to my rant. Respects,
~Wolf From Atlanta~

Biker group reaches out to families – Dec 23, 2008 – *Michigan*
- By Dan Cortez - The mention of motorcycle clubs usually conjures up images of leather jackets & the rumbles of a Harley. But at a club in Madison Heights on Sunday, there were piles of pink baby clothes & boxes of Rice-A-Roni stacked on tables. And Christmas music filled the room as the Detroit Federation of Motorcycle Clubs gave \$1,000 each to two needy families. "We get a lot of bad attention, but we definitely have big hearts," said Dave Werner, president of the federation. "We want to help people out there who need it. There's more of a need than in previous years. We wish we could do more." The money went to Liz Zurawski of Macomb Township & Scott Walker of Clarkston. Along with the money, both families were free to take any donated clothing or food that they might need. Zurawski's 3-year-old son, Ian, suffers from spinal muscular atrophy & is in a wheelchair. Meanwhile, she & her husband, Eric, say they are hoping to hang on to their jobs at an automotive supplier in Troy. Zurawski, 37, didn't know much about motorcycle riders until her sister started dating one, she said, but she has been pleasantly surprised. "They are just so kid-friendly," she said. "You wouldn't think these tough guys would be like that." Walker,

whose 2-year-old son, Logan, has a cancerous tumor behind his right eye, also appreciated the financial help. Logan undergoes chemotherapy every Friday in Detroit, & Walker has been laid off from his job as a landscaper. "It's great to see people reaching out," he said. "We've been so blessed."

Beer Truck Pirate – Dec 23, 2008 – *Wisconsin* - An unfolding case in Virginia involves a semi truck from City Brewery in La Crosse. The truck left City last Monday loaded with beer. A relatively simple overnight trip to Virginia. Never made it. The city's trucking company tells police the driver of the truck refuses to deliver his 43 thousand pounds of fermented cargo. Until he gets three thousand dollars. Kind of like a ransom payment apparently. They say the beer's worth around a hundred thousand dollars. The transportation company says they've had problems with this driver before.

Everett bar fight ends in shooting – Dec 24, 2008 – *Washington* – By KOMO Staff - A drunken fight at an Everett tavern ended with a shooting early Sunday morning, & now police are trying to piece together what happened. Officers said they were called to the Soundview Tavern at 1116 Hewitt Ave. at about 2 a.m., where witnesses told them that the shooting had started as a fight between three or more people. Someone ended up getting shot in the hand, & then everyone involved in the fight fled the scene in their vehicles, witnesses said. After getting a description of the vehicles, Washington State Patrol troopers spotted one of them heading south on Interstate 5 just south of Everett Mall Way. Officers pulled the car over & confirmed the driver & passenger had been involved in the fight, said Sgt. Robert Goetz of the Everett police. The driver was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence, & the passenger had a gunshot wound to his hand. The wound was not life-threatening, & he was transported by ambulance to the hospital. A gun also was found along the freeway by a K-9 police dog. Officers believe the passenger may have started the fight, but he has not been arrested. The shooter has not been located, & police believe that person may have acted in self-defense. Officers are looking into the possibility that the fight may have involved members of the Hells Angels, but they have not confirmed that.

A gift of freedom delivered by President Bush – Dec 24, 2008 – *USA/FAMM* - Pres Bush gave an unforgettable Christmas present to federal prisoner Reed Prior: he granted him clemency from his life sentence. Instead of spending the rest of his life in prison, Reed will return home in February after serving 12 years for his drug conviction. That's the kind of miracle that even Santa can't deliver. President Bush has granted only nine sentence commutations in his eight years in office – just nine of the 202,000 people in federal prison have been given the gift of early release from their lengthy sentences. Hopefully, President Bush will improve that record before his term expires in January. But for Reed Prior, President Bush's mercy is sweet. A long-time drug addict, Reed was convicted in 1996 on a methamphetamine charge. He had two previous state convictions stemming from his addiction for which he had served only a few days in jail. But under the Fed "three-strikes" law, the judge was forced to - & reluctantly did – sentence Reed to a mandatory term of life in prison. While in prison, Reed overcame his addiction, tutored other prisoners, & worked to warn young people of the dangers of drug addiction. Now age 59, Reed plans to use his freedom taking care of his elderly parents. President Bush's gift will keep on giving... And FAMM will keep fighting to make sentencing laws make sense. Happy holidays, Julie Stewart; FAMM Pres

FBI case against biker club slowed - Dec 24, 2008 - *Michigan* -

More than two years after the FBI launched a crackdown on the Highwaymen MC, five alleged members who were locked up awaiting trial on drug conspiracy & other charges are back on the streets. The lead defendant, Sterling Heights restaurant owner Aref "Scarface" Nagi, this week asked a federal judge to release him, too. A much larger Highwaymen indictment, one that was to involve 100 or more defendants which was promised more than a year ago by federal prosecutors, has yet to materialize. "I don't think they have enough to make this case roll," Randy "Tru Story" Ferguson, a national officer with the Highwaymen in Detroit who is not a defendant in the case, said Tuesday. "That's why they've delayed it, delayed it, delayed it." The government rejects suggestions the case against the homegrown club -- allegedly Detroit's largest outlaw motorcycle gang -- is unraveling. "The reason for the delay is that agents have been discovering more & more offenses, which have resulted in multijurisdictional investigations," Assistant U.S. Attorney Diane Marion, the lead prosecutor on the case, said through a spokeswoman. "We hope to wrap those up shortly." Though mostly cocaine & marijuana trafficking charges have been filed to date, the case involves allegations of murder for hire, police corruption, interstate theft, & mortgage & insurance fraud, according to court records & interviews. Nagi, owner of two Pancho Villa restaurants, a bar & a janitorial company, has been jailed since October 2006 on drug conspiracy charges, awaiting a trial now scheduled for September 2009. In a court filing Monday, Nagi attorney James C. Thomas described as "mere puffery" FBI claims that Nagi, 45, is a danger to the community because of alleged involvement in the beating & stabbing of a man, based on information gleaned from wiretaps. "No criminal charges were brought from this supposed incident, nor was any further verification of this incident ever presented," Thomas said. The lawyer also dismissed suggestions that Nagi was a risk to flee to Yemen, where he has family ties, as one of his brothers did in an unrelated criminal case. "There is no evidence that Mr. Nagi has any intent to follow his brother to a third-world country," Thomas said. U.S. District Judge Nancy G. Edmunds has yet to set a hearing on Nagi's latest bond request. Five other defendants who were held in the case: Nagi's son Nasser, 22; Leonard "Bo" Moore, 38, of Lincoln Park; Gary Ball Jr., 43, of Dearborn; Erick Manners, 31, of Newport; & Robert Joseph Burton, 39, of Allen Park, have all been released on bond to await their trials. The trial had earlier been set for last March & government delays were cited as a reason for granting bond in at least one of the cases. "The March trial date is now a distant, faded memory," said Lawrence Shulman, Ball's attorney, in a June court filing seeking bond his client. Ferguson said it's possible one or more individual club members have broken the law, but the club itself is not a criminal organization. He said charitable work the club does for organizations such as Toys for Tots & hospitalized veterans has been hurt by the allegations. "Justice is supposed to be expedient," he said. "We lost a lot of people that used to come down & support us because they don't want to come down under that pall of suspicion."

Federal judge denies injunction – Dec 24, 2008 – *Myrtle*

Beach, South Carolina – By Lorena Anderson - For a second time, a judge has declined to stop Myrtle Beach from enforcing some of the 15 ordinances the city passed to curb the effects of the May motorcycle rallies. U.S. District Court Judge Terry Wooten issued a decision late Monday on a request for an injunction filed by event promoter Mike Shank & H-D of Myrtle Beach to prevent the city from enforcing amendments & ordinances dealing with its special event & noise ordinances & the new helmet law, which

takes effect Feb. 28. Last month, an Horry County circuit court judge also declined to issue an injunction against the city's helmet law requested by 2 Myrtle Beach residents & motorcycle enthusiasts, Carol & William O'Day.

Judge strikes key charge against lawyer – Dec 24, 2008 –

Miami, Florida / USA – By Curt Anderson; AP - In a ruling hailed as a victory by defense lawyers, a federal judge on Monday dismissed a money-laundering conspiracy charge against a prominent attorney accused of illegal dealings with a Colombian drug lord. The issue was whether \$5.2 million transferred from Colombia to the accounts of attorney Ben Kuehne were exempt from criminal prosecution because they were essentially legal fees. Kuehne's lawyers & defense attorneys' groups argued that the conspiracy charge against him violated the Sixth Amendment's guarantee that a person charged with a crime has a right to a lawyer. U.S. District Judge Marcia Cooke agreed, rejecting the U.S. Justice Department's contention that the payments were not necessary for the defense of Colombian drug baron Fabio Ochoa, who was eventually convicted & sentenced to prison. "Congress has explicitly exempted from the money-laundering statute transactions necessary to preserve a person's right to representation," Cooke said in a 13-page ruling. "If I were to construe the statutory exemption as the government suggests, the exemption for such transactions would amount to no exemption at all." The National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, which filed briefs in the case, had argued that the conspiracy charge against Kuehne could deter lawyers around the country from representing numerous clients whose legal fees might stem from questionable sources. "Although the government tried to put a knife in the back of the Sixth Amendment, Judge Cooke rightfully & wisely turned the government's attempt away," said David O. Markus, a Miami attorney who represents the national lawyers' group in the Kuehne case. "A big victory for criminal defense lawyers around the country." Kuehne, 54, known for his bow ties, represented Vice President Al Gore in the 2000 Florida vote recount & was a member of the Florida Bar board of governors. He still faces other charges, including obstruction of justice & wire fraud, but the conspiracy count was considered the heart of the case. "This is an important ruling, & we're gratified by it," said John Nields, a Washington attorney representing Kuehne. The Justice Dept did not indicate Monday whether it would appeal the ruling. "We will review the court's decision," said spokeswoman Laura Sweeney. The case revolves around letters Kuehne wrote in 2002 & 2003 to another high-profile Miami lawyer, Roy Black. The letters verified that a review had concluded Ochoa had money to pay Black that was untainted by the drug trade. Black paid Kuehne \$200,000 for his work. Prosecutors contend that Kuehne knew the money was drug proceeds & that he & others prepared false documents to make it look otherwise. If convicted on the remaining charges, Kuehne could still be forced to forfeit the entire \$5.2 million paid to Black's firm. Cooke said drug proceeds are not exempt from forfeiture even if they are paid as legal fees.

Biker Logic: Five Rules for Men to follow for a Happy Life:

1. It's important to have a woman, who helps at home, who cooks from time to time, cleans up & has a job.
2. It's important to have a woman, who can make you laugh.
3. It's important to have a woman, who you can trust & who doesn't lie to you.
4. It's important to have a woman, who is good in bed & who likes to be with you.
5. It's very, very important that these four women Do not know each other.

Road Dog suspect to be released – Dec 24, 2008 – *California* -

By Emilie Raguso - He won't be home for Christmas, but he's scheduled to be home soon. Michael J. Orozco, 51, of Manteca was ordered by a federal judge to be released from custody after a court hearing Tuesday. Orozco has been in custody since July, when he was indicted with about a dozen others on charges relating to suspected illegal operations at a Denair motorcycle shop going back to 1997. Orozco, Ray M. "Ray Ray" Heffington, 40, of Chowchilla & retired Stanislaus County sheriff's deputy Robert C. Holloway III of Turlock are the only defendants in the case who remain in custody. Heffington also had a hearing Tuesday, but the judge has not ruled on his release. Authorities said Orozco was the chapter vice president of the Alky Haulers, a motorcycle club with close ties to the Hells Angels. He was indicted in connection with a series of phone calls prosecutors say he made to try to recover a motorcycle for Robert Holloway. Holloway & his 35-year-old son, Brent, were among those indicted in July. Prosecutors say Robert Holloway operated a chop shop, illegally extended credit to customers & encouraged threats & violence against customers who didn't pay bills. According to prosecutors, Orozco threatened a man in his club who failed to make payments on a motorcycle from Holloway's Road Dog Cycle. Orozco had vouched for the man so, according to the relationship between Holloway & the Alky Haulers, prosecutors say, Orozco was responsible for recovering the bike when payments were not made. Orozco's attorney, Mac McGinnis of Fresno, said the charges against his client are "based on innuendo & supposition." His client, he said, is harmless. If anything, he added, Orozco is guilty of tough talk. "We'll plead to a count of felony stupid (for that)," he said at the hearing before U.S. District Judge Oliver W. Wanger. Wanger ordered Orozco to be released on strict supervision, if the defense puts up property owned by Orozco's parents as collateral. It could take several weeks for the paperwork to go through, said McGinnis. Wanger said Orozco has no criminal record, no history of drug or alcohol abuse & a long record of stable employment, along with strong ties to his community. In a brief statement before the court, Orozco chalked up the alleged threatening phone calls to a "midlife crisis."

'Sex chip' being developed by scientists – Dec 24, 2008 – *USA*

– By Chris Irvine - The chip works by sending tiny shocks from implanted electrodes in the brain. The technology has been used in the United States to treat Parkinson's disease. But in recent months scientists have been focusing on the area of the brain just behind the eyes known as the orbitofrontal cortex - this is associated with feelings of pleasure derived from eating & sex. A research survey conducted by Morten Kringsbach, senior fellow at Oxford University's department of psychiatry, found the orbitofrontal cortex could be a "new stimulation target" to help people suffering from anhedonia, an inability to experience pleasure from such activities. His findings are reported in the Nature Reviews Neuroscience journal. Neurosurgery professor Tipu Aziz, said: "There is evidence that this chip will work. A few years ago a scientist implanted such a device into the brain of a woman with a low sex drive & turned her into a very sexually active woman. She didn't like the sudden change, so the wiring in her head was removed." He added however that the current technology, which requires surgery to connect a wire from a heart pacemaker into the brain, can cause bleeding & is "intrusive & crude". He continued: "When the technology is improved, we can use deep brain stimulation in many new areas. It will be more subtle, with more control over the power so you may be able to turn the chip on & off when needed. "In 10 years' time the range of therapies available will be amazing – we don't know half the

possibilities yet." An electronic machine, named the Orgasmatron, taken from the 1973 Woody Allen film Sleeper, is already under development by a North Carolina doctor, who is modifying a spinal cord stimulator to produce pleasure in women.

Feds find \$1.6M buried at farm – Dec 26, 2008 – *Norwalk, Ohio*

- Federal authorities have found \$1.6 million in cash buried at a Huron County farm after receiving a tip that drug money was hidden there. Assistant U.S. Atty Dave DeVillers says the money was in 7 metal ammunition boxes. He declined to specify the location of the farm. The boxes held various denominations, including \$20, \$50 & \$100 bills. The money is believed to be from a drug ring that took in \$10 million from the sale of marijuana in central Ohio this year & in 2007. Fifteen people have been indicted in the ring, & authorities previously confiscated more than \$4 million, 80 firearms & marijuana valued at \$2.5 million. Sgt. Mike Cooksey of the Huron County Sheriff's office said his department's detectives believed the find was connected to drug indictments in neighboring Lorain County, but federal authorities had not informed Huron County of the find.

Hells Angel found guilty – Dec 26, 2008 – *Canada* – By Peter

Edwards - Gerald (Skinny) Ward was a senior southern Ontario Hells Angel who sold drugs & directed others to move narcotics for the benefit of the outlaw biker club, a Toronto judge ruled last week. "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 as he found Ward, 60, of trafficking drugs to benefit the biker club. Ward is a founding member of the Niagara chapter of the Hells Angels. He had vigorously denied that his drug dealing had anything to do with his membership in the biker club. Sentencing arguments for Ward will be heard Feb. 27. He remains in custody & he didn't attend court because of an undisclosed medical problem. Ward was 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. He pleaded guilty in September to drug dealing, but denied he broke the law to support the biker club. Fed prosecutor Tom Andreopoulos had argued that the drug dealing "had everything to do with the Hells Angels Motorcycle Club." Andreopoulos told court that members of the Hells Angels are expected to give 10 per cent of criminal proceeds to the club. Ward was charged with directing 5 other members & associates of the Hells Angels to deliver about four kilograms of high-grade cocaine to Gault, who wore a hidden microphone during the undercover operation as he purchased drugs valued at \$3 million 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 light of the present financial crisis, it's interesting to read what Thomas Jefferson said in 1802: 'I believe that banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies. If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their currency, first by inflation, then by deflation, the banks & corporations that will grow up around the banks will deprive the people of all property until their children wake-up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered.

To compel a man to subsidize with his taxes the propagation of ideas which he disbelieves & abhors is sinful & tyrannical.

- Thomas Jefferson

Coffin Cheaters head police push to clear bikie barriers – Dec 26, 2008 – *Australia* – By Ronan O’Connell - Police plan to force the Coffin Cheaters motorcycle gang to remove fortifications at its Bayswater clubhouse as part of a push to use anti-fortification laws at bikie properties across WA. The West Australian understands police intend to use the legislation to force the gang to remove the 2m-plus compound walls, surveillance cameras, floodlights & high gates. It is believed the Bayswater property is at the top of a hit list of bikie clubhouses across the State which police plan to target with the new legislation. Police yesterday refused to comment on their plans for using the laws. Police Commissioner Karl O’Callaghan said in August that police would use the laws against other gangs following successful legal action against the Gypsy Jokers motorcycle gang, which was ordered by Supreme Court Justice Peter Blaxell to remove fortifications from its Maddington clubhouse. The court battle began in 2004 when the Commissioner issued a fortification removal notice under the Corruption & Crime Commission Act. The Gypsy Jokers later lost a High Court challenge. Justice Blaxell said he reviewed the removal notice & was satisfied the Commissioner could reasonably believe the premises were heavily fortified & used by people reasonably suspected of organized crime. Police Minister Rob Johnson said he had no knowledge of police plans to tear down fortifications at bikie clubhouses. “However, I clearly support tough police action against bikie gangs & any other form of organised crime in WA,” he said. “I am on the record as saying we want fewer bikie gangs in WA.” Two weeks ago, police stormed the Coffin Cheaters’ Bayswater premises & allegedly seized guns, ammunition, cash & quantities of amphetamine, cannabis & steroids. With help from Customs & Australian Federal Police, the detectives found a cache of weapons in the raid, during which they used specialist equipment designed to detect hidden vaults & cavities at the property. Police allegedly seized 5 loaded semi-automatic handguns of various calibers with multiple magazines, 2 loaded cut-down pump-action shotguns, three swords, four batons & a variety of bladed weapons.

Safety course requirements to increase for military motorcyclists - Dec 27, 2008 – *North Carolina* – By Jennifer Hlad - Marines & sailors who own motorcycles will soon be required to take an extra safety course. Currently, Marines & sailors must take & pass one course - the Basic Rider Course - if they own a motorcycle. But a new Marine Corps order is expected any day, requiring an additional course based on what type of bike they own. The courses are mandatory even if the Marine does not plan to ride the motorcycle on base. One of the two courses, the Experienced Rider Course, already existed, but was not mandatory. Now, Marines will be required to take either the ERC for cruiser-type motorcycles or the new Military Sport Bike Course for sport bikes, said Bob Dubois, safety officer for II Marine Expeditionary Force. The sport bike course has been offered at Camp Lejeune since Oct. Marine Corps & Navy leaders saw the need for a sport-bike specific course when they looked at wreck data & saw how many involved sport bikes, Dubois said. Sport bikes have different capabilities than cruisers, & the riders tend to be younger & have a different attitude about riding, so it makes sense to have a separate course, he said. Sgt. Martin Hernandez, of 8th Communications Battalion, has been riding for four years, but recently bought a new sport bike. During a break in a recent Military Sport Bike Course, he said he thinks the new requirement is a good thing. “Marines get crazy on bikes. They can use all the training they can get,” he said. Hernandez said the course made him more comfortable with his new bike, & was the first time he had ridden in the rain. “You can never have enough training,” he said. “It doesn’t matter how experienced you

think you are, there’s always more you can learn.” Lance Cpl. Eddie Martinez, of 10th Marine Regiment, was also taking the course. He said he has been riding for about two years, but wanted to learn more. “I’m getting a little better at looking through the corners,” he said.

Buy a H-D, get free stock shares – Dec 27, 2008 – *Wisconsin* - A motorcycle dealer in Wisconsin is offering free shares of H-D stock with the purchase of a new motorcycle. Milwaukee H-D will give buyers 100 shares with the purchase of a 2008 model, & 50 shares for buying a 2009 model. Dealership owner Chaz Hastings says the promotion is generating interest. He says he’ll hit his sales goals this month. Harley shares closed at \$16.59 on Friday, meaning 100 shares are worth just under \$1,700. The dealership’s Web site lists 2008 motorcycles ranging in price from about \$10,000 to \$23,000. Next year’s models range from about \$13,500 to \$30,500. H-D corporate spokesman Bob Klein says he’s not aware of any other dealers running a similar promotion.

Family finds \$10,000 in box of crackers – Dec 27, 2008 – *California* - The box of crackers Debra Rogoff bought from the grocery store had some crackerjack in it — an envelope stuffed with \$10,000. Yet the Irvine woman was more curious than ecstatic about her daughter’s find. After all, who would leave money in such a place? “We just thought, ‘This is someone’s money,’” she said. “We would never feel good about spending it.” Rather than go on a shopping spree, the family called police & was initially told the money could be part of a drug drop. Police later heard from store managers at Whole Foods in Tustin that an elderly woman had come in a few days earlier, hysterical because she had mistakenly returned a box of crackers with her life savings inside. In a mix-up the store restocked the box rather than composting it. The Lake Forest woman, whose identity was not released, had lost faith in her bank & decided the box would be a safer place for the money. Luckily for her, the box of Annie’s Sour Cream & Onion Cheddar Bunny crackers were bought by the Rogoffs, who discovered the crisp \$100 bills in an unmarked white envelope on Oct. 10. The Rogoffs never heard from the woman & didn’t receive a reward, but Rogoff did return to Whole Foods a couple weeks later. “I asked them if I could have another box of crackers,” she said with a laugh. The store obliged.

Bungalow in Oshawa reveals bikers’ secrets – Dec 27, 2008 – *Canada* – By Peter Edwards - If the walls could talk, they’d be in a witness protection program. The squat, red-and-white Hells Angels clubhouse at 487 Ortono Ave. in Oshawa, was once one of the toughest-to-enter addresses in the Greater Toronto Area, until heavily armed police barged in & seized it in Sept 2006. Back when it was run by the bikers, if you wanted to get inside, you had to pass under security cameras & hidden listening devices, & be granted entry by someone on the other side of a steel-plated, windowless door. The folks on the other side of the steel door were nicknamed “The Assylum (sic) Crew” for their wild behavior. A member & a former member are currently facing murder conspiracy & counsel to commit murder charges. Another member is behind bars for smuggling cocaine through Pearson International Airport. Yet another Assylum Crew alumnus began serving a 7-year prison term in Oct, after pleading guilty to plotting the murder of his own brother over drug trafficking turf. A fifth former member, club secretary Steven Gault, is deep in a witness protection program, after being paid more than \$1 million by police to work as an agent against his former biker brothers. You can now safely take a personal tour of their old stomping grounds, via police photos obtained by the Toronto Star. The photos of the bikers’ former hangout show it to be a little messy,

but far cleaner than your average frat house. The untidy look is likely from the police search two years ago, when police seized some \$14,000 hidden in the bungalow's walls. On the main floor, photos show a grey velour couch, facing a little bar & a flat screen television, which looks to have a 32-inch screen. It's likely your eyes are drawn upwards to the plaques & photos on all the walls, each with the winged skull "death head" insignia of the Hells Angels, the world's largest outlaw motorcycle club. There's even a cuckoo clock on the wall with a Hells Angel death head, the club's copyrighted logo. On one wall is a framed patch from the old Satan's Choice club, which was absorbed into the Hells Angels 8 years ago, & tribute photos of former members, now dead. There's also a black leather vest with a patch with the words "Assylum Crew," & T-shirts with the words "Montreal" & "Trois Rivieres," demonstrating how the Oshawa chapter is particularly tight with Hells Angels there. Upstairs the atmosphere becomes decidedly more businesslike. Photos of Hells Angels chapters from around the world fill the walls. On a filing cabinet, by the computer, are pictures of prospective Ontario members & telephone numbers, attached by magnets. One of the names on a post-it on the filing cabinet is that of "Shakey Dave," for David Atwell, the former sergeant-at-arms of the Downtown Toronto Hells Angels chapter. Atwell is now in a witness protection program, after informing on his old clubmates. There are also Assylum Crew membership cards, with the phone numbers of each member, & similar cards for the Hells Angels chapters from Sudbury, Keswick, North Toronto, Niagara, Thunder Bay, Saskatoon, London, Denver, Simcoe County & Prince George, B.C. Other paperwork close to the computer includes a payment chart, showing how members' \$100 monthly dues were split several ways, including payments to defend the club's trademarked logo & the Big House Crew, the nickname for members who are behind bars. Filed in the upstairs office are email addresses for the national secretaries in each country or region in the Hells Angels world. Also in the office are photos of every Hells Angel member in the world, in 190 chapters from Oakland, California to Auckland, New Zealand, Costa Del Sol, Spain & West Rand, South Africa. Those photos allowed chapter members to check the identity of any visitors who dropped by claiming to be Hells Angels members. Hells Angels members have the right to drop into any clubhouse in the world & be welcomed as a "trusted equal." In the office, there's also an old inter-department delivery envelope from the Durham Regional Police Service's biker intelligence report, which contains photographs & information on members of the Satan's Choice, Para-Dice Riders & the Vagabonds Motorcycle Gangs. The document dates back to before the Satan's Choice & Para-Dice Riders folded into the Hells Angels, but it was always considered a sensitive police document, & so it was never included in routine court disclosure proceedings. Other paperwork in the upstairs office includes copyright agreements to make sure no members or people producing souvenirs such as jewellery privately profit from the club's colours or its death head logo. At the back of the bungalow is a more public bar area, with an "AFFA" banner across the ceiling, standing for "Angels Forever, Forever Angels." Tables have ashtrays, indicating the bar wasn't in compliance with provincial antismoking laws for drinking establishments. Behind the bar are monitors, for checking who's outside the bungalow. A baseball bat tucked under the bartender's stool also suggests this isn't your average watering hole.

The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep & bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government. - Thomas Jefferson

Shot dead over bikie drug war – Dec 27, 2008 - *Australia* - By Dylan Welch - Murdered Kings Cross security manager Todd O'Connor was part of an inner-city drug syndicate & the hundreds of thousands of dollars police found in his apartment after his death was probably profit from that ring, the Supreme Court has heard. The claim was made in a criminal assets confiscation hearing about \$635,100 discovered by police in O'Connor's ransacked apartment days after he was shot dead in Tempe on Oct 5. O'Connor, a 41-year-old with a long history in Kings Cross, was shot in the back of the head on South Street by two men. It has since been reported that O'Connor - a security manager & long-time associate of a nightclub promoter & alleged criminal identity - was murdered as a result of a drug distribution war between rival outlaw motorcycle clubs. The Crime Commission now alleges that O'Connor & another man were involved in a drug syndicate, according to a judgment delivered by Justice Ian Harrison late last month. The commission's assistant director of financial investigations, Jonathan Spark, said he arrived at that conclusion based on evidence provided by the NSW Police Force, the Australian Federal Police & information from a Crime Commission informant. "Part of that information included an allegation that [the other man] & [O'Connor] were involved in the manufacture & supply of prohibited drugs," the judgment said. The money was discovered in O'Connor's luxury apartment in The Domain Building in Woollomooloo by detectives attached to Strike Force Colbee, formed to investigate his death. The flat had been ransacked & a safe was missing but a duffle bag containing the money had been overlooked. Police have since said O'Connor may have been lured to his death by two young men seen driving a grey 2002 model Nissan Pulsar sedan with a small rear spoiler on the Princes Highway & Short Street.

Criminal gangs net seafood plunder – Dec 28, 2008 – *Australia* – By Gary Hughes – Organized crime groups, including outlaw motorcycle gangs & Chinese underworld networks, are developing a growing taste for Australian black market seafood & the massive profits being made from the illegal trade. Top of the menu are rock lobsters, closely followed by abalone, shark fins, mud crabs & prawns. The illegal hauls are being sold to restaurants, hotels, clubs & small retail seafood outlets, or smuggled offshore to lucrative Asian markets. A report by the Australian Institute of Criminology says it is impossible to calculate how much the illegal seafood trade is worth or what it is costing Australia's legitimate \$2 billion-plus fishing industry. But in one case it was estimated that one of Australia's most notorious abalone poachers was making more than \$1 million a year. The report says law enforcement agencies have found links between bikie gangs & the illegal seafood trade in a number of states. In some cases, the distribution of black market seafood is being carried out in conjunction with drug trafficking. "In Western Australia, an OMCG (outlaw motorcycle gang) was said to have been involved in theft of pearls; in the Northern Territory, OMCGs had purchased fishing licences; & in South Australia, enforcement stakeholders believed that OMCGs had been involved in the illegal abalone trade," the report says. "These gangs were also reported to have purchased fishing vessels to distribute illicit drugs." In the Northern Territory, companies & family groups are illegally profiting from large-scale & well-organised shark "finning", in which fins are sliced from illegally caught sharks & smuggled to Asia, where they are in huge demand.

It is incumbent on every generation to pay its own debts as it goes. A principle which if acted on would save one-half the wars of the world. - Thomas Jefferson

Gang law: Gang-busting or profiling? – Dec 29, 2008 – *Idaho* -

By Kristin Rodine - Officials say a new law has helped combat gang activity. Others say it's used to harass. A young man in a dark blue hoodie cuts down a Caldwell alley, glancing behind him as a white sedan glides onto the gravel. He stops with a look of nervous resignation. The car's unmarked, but he knows who's in it & what the driver wants. Sgt. Joey Hoadley, head of Caldwell's Street Crimes Unit, gets out & quizzes the young man in a familiar, friendly tone. Hoadley asks the dark-haired young man about his destination, his probation status, his garb - "You know what blue will get you." Hoadley pats him down to make sure the cell phone in his pocket is just that. Asked if he has any new tattoos, the young man says "no" & bares his skin to demonstrate. He agrees to have his picture taken & readily gives Hoadley his cell phone number. The young man smiles affably but frequently looks down the alley to see who might be watching. He's walking through the alley, he says, to avoid a gang house on the next street. He's staying away from that life, he says. They shake hands. "Stay out of trouble, man," Hoadley says. He gets back into the car & fills out a manila card that will go into a file bearing the name of that young man, one of about 500 people known to Caldwell police as documented gang members. It's a routine encounter, one repeated daily by gang-specialist officers in Nampa & Caldwell. Officers look for telltale signs, take scrupulous notes & build files. Once someone meets at least two criteria under the 2-year-old Idaho Criminal Gang Enforcement Act, he or she can be documented as a gang member & risks longer jail time if convicted of a crime. Lawmakers, law enforcement officials & city leaders have lauded the new gang law for providing more tools to fight Southwest Idaho's growing gang problem. But to some Treasure Valley residents, the law's enforcement smacks of profiling: unfair targeting of people because of how they look, where they live or who they hang out with. They question the law's effectiveness & fairness. Some area residents say they have no connection to gangs but have been stopped for very minor offenses & asked to admit gang membership.

'It's A Hard Balance': Pulling someone over on a minor offense, then keeping an eye out for something bigger is a time-honored police tactic that helps officers solve crimes. But Ray Serrano says Idaho's Gang Enforcement Act is too arbitrary & puts unfair scrutiny on young Hispanic males. Serrano, valedictorian from Nampa High School's Class of 2000, recently returned to his hometown after conducting AIDS research in Africa & says he was alarmed by the number of stories he heard about people being targeted under the state's new gang law. "At first I was skeptical," he said. "I figured they must have asked for it. But the stories started coming up more & more." Serrano ended up writing a report that raises questions about the law's effectiveness & application. Leo Morales, a former Wilder resident who works for the Idaho Community Action Network, also takes issue with the gang law. "I think it was flawed from its conception," Morales said. "It really had racial profiling written all over it." Police say their enforcement does not focus on race. Most Canyon County gangs are Hispanic, however, which means that most gang enforcement & officer contacts involve people of Hispanic background. "It's not about the color of their skin, it's about the color of their rags," Hoadley said. Gary Deulen, chief deputy with the Canyon County Sheriff's Office, said he believes there has been racial profiling by county officers in the past, stopping people for what was facetiously termed "driving while brown." But that practice has been eliminated, he said. There's a difference between profiling, he said, & following officers' instincts & training. "It's that first two seconds after someone sees a police officer that tells you what's what," Deulen said. "It's

a hard balance between our civil rights & the need to police. Catching the criminal should never become the ultimate goal over protecting people's rights." The sheriff's office has deputies who focus on gangs, he said, but it does not keep files of documented gang members. Estella Zamora, a longtime Caldwell resident & president of the Idaho Human Rights Commission, said she has heard rumblings from people in the community who feel their children have been unfairly targeted, but no specific complaints have been lodged with the human rights commission. "If it is happening, it does cause me concern," she said. "But I can't say I've heard it has actually happened." Steve Torrano, executive director of Original Gangster's Basic Academy of Development in Nampa, recognizes the concerns about the gang law but also sees its benefits. OG's Academy is for gang members & others who don't thrive in traditional schools, helping them get GEDs or diplomas & to find productive paths. After Serrano shared his concerns with Torrano about the Gang Enforcement Act, Torrano asked academy students & tutors if they felt they had been profiled. Some said they had. But in general, he said, he hasn't seen it as a problem. Once teens & young adults get into the academy & start working toward a future, he said, local police "tend not to continue to harass them." "The act does have some teeth in it, & for good reason," Torrano said. "I think they have done a good job enforcing that." A dramatic rise in Canyon County gang violence in 2004 helped fuel the effort for new legal tools, but Morales fears the resultant Gang Enforcement Act fosters an antagonistic relationship between Hispanic youths & law enforcement that could ultimately work against efforts to keep kids on the right side of the law. "It further pushes youth into the margins, labels them & criminalizes them," he said. And, he said, putting someone on a gang list doesn't just label them with law enforcement: It could affect whether they can get a job & how they're viewed in the community. "I think there is a problem with gang activity here," Serrano said. "But the Gang Enforcement Act has afforded police officers the license to beef up their numbers on gang lists at the expense of people whose crime was eventually dropped in court."

'I Don't Want To Be Stereotyped': Fernando Martinez, 20, is a lifelong Nampa who doesn't speak Spanish but is proud of his Hispanic heritage. He loves fixing up low-rider cars & playing loud music, & tattoos on his neck proclaim him "100% Chicano." Other tattoos, fading but still evident on his hands, are more problematic - obvious symbols of affiliation to a specific gang. But that's about five years in the past, Martinez said, before he fell in love & got a job. "I got out of that gang stuff when I was 15, when I knew I had better priorities to do, like a family & a future," he said. Both the job & the woman are still mainstays in his life, he said. The couple has 2 children, owns their home & are looking toward the future. To preserve that future, he's determined to keep off the list of documented gang members, but feels like police are working against him. Between Oct 2007 & Oct 2008, Nampa police have ticketed Martinez 6 times for minor offenses - too-loud music, a nonfunctioning muffler, failure to provide proof of insurance or carry his driver's license with him, reckless driving. Each time he has gone to court & pleaded not guilty; court records show five of those six charges were dismissed. He said he is frequently pulled over by police, who ask him if he's in a gang & want to take his picture, something he adamantly refuses. He also said officers have offered not to ticket him if he lets them take his picture & put him in the gang files. "I don't want to be stereotyped as a gang member," Martinez said. "I'll take the ticket." Serrano & Morales said they've heard numerous accounts of local police making similar offers, but police say that's not how they do business. "It's not 'Let's Make

a Deal,” Hoadley said. “If we have reason to write you a ticket, we’re going to do it.” Cpl. Jason Cantrell, a gang officer with Nampa Police Department’s Special Investigations Unit, agreed: “We’re not giving them freebies for admitting being a gang member.” Cantrell & Hoadley both said police don’t need to pressure someone to admit gang affiliation: If he or she’s a member, officers will be able to prove it one way or another. “It’s a matter of time,” Hoadley said. Under the Gang Enforcement Act, police can document a gang member if the individual “engages in a pattern of criminal activity” & meets two or more specific criteria. For example, if someone has been arrested more than once for crimes in the company of documented gang members & adopts a gang’s style of dress, hand signs or tattoos, that person could be documented. Hoadley said the new gang law has been great for officers trying to put a damper on gang crime. “We use the tools that we have, & we use them by the book.”

‘I felt Discriminated Against’: It’s not just young Hispanic men who complain of being unfairly targeted. Lisa Ramirez, a 47-year-old state employee, recalls a 2006 incident when a Nampa police officer pulled her over on Nampa-Caldwell Boulevard when she was driving her then-new car with her daughters. The officer said he stopped her because her “license plates were not properly displayed,” she said, but she believed she was pulled over because there were more than two Hispanic people in the car. “I told him (the officer) I felt discriminated against. He said, ‘I’m offended.’ I told him, ‘Try being Mexican.’” About a year ago, Ramirez said, one of her daughters was in a car with friends, returning from the funeral of a purported gang member, when they were pulled over by Caldwell police who asked them about gang affiliation & wanted to take their photos. The officers ultimately left her daughter alone but hassled some of the other occupants, she said. Sgt. Hoadley remembers a traffic stop matching that description, & said officers took the photos to show to some of the passengers’ probation officers, because there were documented gang members in the car, & being in a vehicle - or at a funeral - in the company of gang members violated the other teens’ probation. Serrano said he thinks documentation lists are swollen with people who aren’t core gang members but just look the part enough to attract the interest of police. But associations, clothing & tattoos are big parts of gang identity, Cantrell said, & trained officers can readily tell the difference between a gangster & someone who just happens to wear a signature color or style of clothes. “With just the experience we’ve had on the street, you can tell what’s what,” Hoadley agreed. “We’re not just looking for baggy pants & a crooked hat. “If you’re not a gang member, you should have no worry about being documented.” Morales said the emphasis on putting gangsters behind bars comes at the expense of other types of programs to steer low-income young people away from crime & into productive lives. For OG’s Academy, the opposite appears to be true, Torrano said. One major advantage to the new gang law, he said, is that it helps take gang leaders off the streets. And that makes it more likely that less-committed members will be receptive to programs like OG’s Academy. “Now when we say we have an alternative, they don’t just blow us off,” Torrano said. He said his program has a pretty good relationship with police, “considering that we cater to the people they’re chasing down the streets all the time.”

‘Making Sure You Stay In Line’: Cruising through the streets of his hometown on a recent Tuesday, Sgt. Hoadley knows the places & the players. Many of the people he stops aren’t strangers: He knows their nicknames, their rap sheets, & where their families live. One teen greets him with a cheery, “Do I got any warrants?” (The answer was no.) Others spark the Caldwell

officer’s interest simply by where they are, what they’re doing, how they’re dressed. At one point, Hoadley looks in his rearview mirror to see a Camaro pull away from the curb without signaling. He lets the car pass, then flips on his lights. The car had been parked the wrong direction in front of a house known for drug activity. He pulls it over to check the driver out. A quick computer check determines that the driver, a Hispanic man who looks to be in his 30s, is a documented gang member from San Diego on felony probation for firing gunshots into a vehicle. Hoadley searches the Camaro while its driver sits on the curb, looking glum. The man grumbles about being stopped, saying he’s tired of being harassed. “This is our way of making sure you stay in line,” Hoadley replies, then lets the man go without a ticket.

Staggered formation best way to stay close, stay safe on motorcycles – Dec 29, 2008 – *California* – By Rick Davis - The Press-Enterprise **Q.** Possible “illegal riding formations” used by motorcyclists was the subject of Roberto Gomez’s voicemail. “I don’t see motorcycles riding side by side in the same lane very often,” the Idyllwild resident said. “Is it against the law to ride next to each other like that? Or is it just a road safety issue?” **A.** No law banning side-by-side riding in the same lane could be located in the vehicle code. But it is more or less discouraged as not being the safest formation when riding in groups, according to the DMV’s California Motorcycle Handbook. “When riding in groups, do not pair up. Riding next to each other gives a person no place to go to avoid a hazard on the road,” it states on pages 32 & 33. “Never operate directly alongside another rider. To talk, wait until both riders are stopped. For safety in groups, the best is a staggered formation. It keeps ranks close yet maintains an adequate space cushion. The leader rides in the left portion of the lane while the second rider stays one second behind in the right portion of the lane. A third rider rides in the left portion of the lane two seconds behind the first rider. The fourth rider keeps a two-second distance behind the second rider & so on.”

Bikies flout law banning logos – Dec 29, 2008 – *Australia* – By Veronica Apap - Lake Illawarra police are investigating alleged breaches of new laws which ban outlaw motorcycle gang members wearing their club colours into pubs & clubs. Licensed premises across the Illawarra have begun working with police to make it a condition of entry to ban clothing or visible tattoos with bikie gang symbols, logos, names or colours. Sgt Gary Keevers emphasised the new conditions of entry were not about banning people, only the clothing or other symbols representing the gangs. “For nearly 6 months now, police have advised a number of motorcycle clubs of the pending entry conditions & the reasons for those conditions,” he said. “Some hotel staff have even offered persons T-shirts to wear while they were on the premises.” An escalation in gang rivalry, particularly in Sydney, was behind the move, Sgt Keevers said. “Police are monitoring the Kiama local government area in respect of a particular motorcycle club,” he said. “We continually get community & liquor industry complaints about the behaviour of some gangs, with people indicating fear & a feeling of intimidation.” The Mercury understands some gang members believe the legislation is discriminatory & have allegedly displayed outlaw bikie gang symbols & refused to leave when requested. The latest move to crack down on bikie gangs follows police raids of various club headquarters in Nowra, Albion Park, Batemans Bay & Kiama Downs last year. Members of the Rebels motorcycle gang were later charged with offences including operating an unlicensed premises, possessing illegal gaming machines & breaching a noise abatement order & were fined \$15,900.

Heartland Law Enforcement Training Institute Presents Patrol Response to Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs - March 23-24, 2009 in **Columbus, Ohio** - Hosted by the Columbus PD - A two-day (16 hour) training program designed for patrol officers & supervisors who may encounter members & associates of outlaw motorcycle gangs during their day to day duties. The course curriculum includes the origin & history of outlaw motorcycle gangs, identification of patches & tattoos, organizational structure & recruiting process, philosophy of members, biker violence, a breakdown of the Big 4 outlaw motorcycle gangs & much more. Officers will receive critical training in all aspects of dealing with outlaw motorcycle gang members & their associates including legal & ethical considerations that should be taken into account during contacts. Over the past three years law enforcement agencies in the United States have paid out thousands of dollars to members of outlaw motorcycle gangs from incidents involving uniformed patrol officers & investigators who were trying to deal with gang problems in their communities. Officers will receive special training on how to protect themselves & their agencies from frivolous lawsuits from these criminal organizations & still be able to do deal with these individuals effectively. Instructors will concentrate on the proper ways to identify suspected members & associates of outlaw motorcycle gangs & will teach effective methods of conducting traffic stops on gang members both on motorcycles & in other vehicles. Outlaw motorcycle gangs involvement in the drug trade will be detailed & Officers will be trained in Unique Investigative Techniques that can be utilized to disrupt & disband the gangs & their membership. Additionally Officers will be trained in the recognition of unique weapons possessed by outlaw motorcycle gang members. The instructor for this seminar has many years of investigative experience & a wealth of information to share with fellow officers.

Program:

- Origin & History of Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs
- Organizational Structure & Recruiting Process
- Tattoo & Patch Identification
- Intelligence Gathering
- Study of the "Big 4" Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs
- Weapons Identification
- Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs & the Drug Trade
- Motorcycle Gang Related Violence
- Combating Lawsuits & Legal Actions
- Unique Investigative Techniques
- Safe Methods of Conducting Vehicle Stops on OMG Members

Conference Instructor: Steve Cook- Detective, Independence Missouri Police Department. Steve has been a police officer for 15 years, with over six years experience in a multi-agency drug task force. Steve has completed assignments with the DEA Clandestine Laboratory Enforcement Team as well as participating on a FBI Violent Crime/Gang Task Force. Steve has worked numerous intelligence operations all over the United States involving outlaw motorcycle gangs & was the case agent & secondary undercover in an attempt infiltration of a Bandidos farm club. During that operation Steve acted as a webmaster for the club & had the opportunity to act in an undercover capacity with members of several different outlaw motorcycle gangs including the Outlaws. Steve has also been featured in the History Channel's Gang Land programs on the Outlaws & Bandidos.

Please submit payment by check or money order with this registration form. Seating is limited & will be accepted on 1st come, 1st served basis. Please remit to: Heartland Law Enforcement Training Institute; Box 902; Lee's Summit, Mo 64063

There's no such thing as bad weather, just inappropriate clothing.

The Best Smart Ass Answers of 2008!

Smart Ass Answer #6: It was mealtime during an airline flight. 'Would you like dinner?' The flight attendant asked John, seated in front. 'What are my choices?' John asked. 'Yes or no!'

Smart Ass Answer #5: A flight attendant was stationed at the departure gate to check tickets. As a man approached, she extended her hand for the ticket & he opened his trench coat & flashed her. Without missing a beat, she said, 'Sir, I need to see your ticket, not your stub.'

Smart Ass Answer #4: A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store but she couldn't find one big enough for her family. She asked a stock boy, 'Do these turkeys get any bigger?' The stock boy replied, 'No ma'am, they're dead.'

Smart Ass Answer #3: The police officer got out of his car as the kid who was stopped for speeding rolled down his window. 'I've been waiting for you all day,' the officer said. The kid replied, 'Yeah, well I got here as fast as I could.' When the cop finally stopped laughing, he sent the kid on his way without a ticket.

Smart Ass Answer #2: A truck driver was driving along on the freeway & noticed a sign that read: Low Bridge Ahead. Before he knows it, the bridge is right in front of him & his truck gets wedged under it. Cars are backed up for miles. Finally a police car comes up. The cop gets out of his car & walks to the truck driver, puts his hands on his hips & says, 'Got stuck, huh?' The truck driver says, 'No, I was delivering this bridge & I ran out of gas.'

Smart Ass Answer Of The Year 2008! A college teacher reminds her class of tomorrow's final exam. 'Now class, I won't tolerate any excuses for you not being here tomorrow. I might consider a nuclear attack or a serious personal injury, illness, or a death in your immediate family, but that's it, no other excuses whatsoever!' A smart-ass student in the back of the room raised his hand & asked, 'What would you say if tomorrow I said I was suffering from complete & utter sexual exhaustion?' The entire class is reduced to laughter & snickering. When silence was restored, the teacher smiled knowingly at the student, shook her head & sweetly said, 'Well, I guess you'd have to write the exam with your other hand.'

Man carrying over \$70 chooses jail over \$1.57 soda – Dec 30, 2008 – **Wisconsin** - Eau Claire police said a man accused of stealing a soda worth \$1.57 chose to go to jail rather than pay up, even though he was carrying more than \$70. Police responding to the report of a theft recently say the 27-year-old man appeared drunk. An employee told officers the man had taken a cup from the counter, filled it & began drinking. When employees told him he had to pay for the drink or leave, the man refused to do either. A police officer told the man he could pay \$1.57 or go to jail, & the man chose jail. The officer handcuffed & searched him, finding the money in his pocket. The man was issued an ordinance citation for retail theft.

Detective asks to use bathroom, finds stolen gun – Dec 30, 2008 – **Florida** - Authorities said a stolen gun was recovered when a detective tried to use the suspect's bathroom & couldn't get the toilet to work. A detective investigating the theft of a handgun, jewelry & cash from a Jensen Beach home was told a possible suspect might be staying at a Port St. Lucie hotel. The detective met with a 21-year-old suspect & during an interview, the detective asked to use the man's bathroom. When the detective couldn't get the toilet to flush, he took off the tank cover to see what the problem was. That's when he found the handgun & three magazines with bullets. The man was charged last Monday with grand theft & grand theft of a firearm.

Not all who wander are lost. -J. R. R. Tolkien

Drug driving: can ‘drugalysers’ stamp it out? - Dec 30, 2008 - *England* - The Euston underpass had never looked so beautiful. The mix of rain & oil spillage - & the influence of copious amounts of marijuana & hashish - had turned the tarmac into a hypnotic rainbow. Unfortunately, for film actor Robert Goodman, 53, who was making his way home one Christmas on his beloved 750 Royal Enfield motorcycle, it led to him being distracted & crashing into the kerb. “I tore muscles & ligaments in my left knee,” says Goodman, whose movie credits include *Gangs of New York*. “The pain was excruciating. But I’m just thankful it was me that was hurt & no one else.” Goodman had been at a friend’s house when he took the drugs, but he’d drunk numerous cups of strong coffee & left it a good few hours before driving his bike home. “I thought I was doing good - until I came off,” says Goodman, who knows that he made a grave error of judgment. “Even now, 5 years later, my knee still gives me gip.”

These days Goodman no longer takes drugs (nor does he drink) - whether he’s driving or not. But a lot of people do, particularly over the Christmas period. The figures are sobering. According to Dept for Transport research, almost 20% of drivers involved in fatal accidents have traces of drugs in their system. And an RAC Foundation survey of 474 *Max Power* magazine readers, conducted in 2005, found that young people are more likely to be driven by someone who has been taking drugs than by someone who has been drinking. The extent of the problem began to surface in 2002 when the head of traffic at Durham Police, Barry Peart, asked labs to screen for drugs as they suspected drugs were one of the common denominators in incidents. The findings, he said, were “alarming, far worse than we thought”. As a result of mounting evidence that more motorists are drug driving, new roadside drug testing kits are to be introduced next year. Dubbed “drugalysers”, they analyze a motorist’s saliva for drugs. Currently, police use the roadside Field Impairment Test (FIT) to work out if someone is driving while on drugs and/or drink. The test originated in the US & involves making suspects stand on one leg, walk in a straight line, & touch the tip of their nose with a finger, as well as number-based questions to check mental agility. If tests prove positive, drivers face the same punishment as those over the alcohol limit: a minimum one-year ban & a fine of up to £5,000. But this can never make up for lives lost. “One of the worst examples we dealt with was a delivery van that was totally chopped in half,” recalls PC Robbie Burns of Cheshire Constabulary’s traffic unit. “The driver was killed instantly. The offending driver had amphetamines & cannabis in his system.” The victim was a father of 2. It isn’t just illicit drugs that pose a problem; prescription & over-the-counter drugs do too. Anti-depressants, painkillers, antihistamines & cough mixtures can slow down reactions & make people drowsy. Police warn that anyone taking them should carefully follow medical advice on driving afterwards. Unfortunately, many don’t. But as far as Goodman is concerned, “You just don’t take drugs, legal or otherwise, & drive. It’s just not worth killing yourself or others.”

Jury hands up indictments in ‘79 – Dec 31, 2008 – *Ohio* – By Ed Runyan - The grand jury indicted Ronald Stahlman, 56, on a murder charge. He could also face a life prison sentence. Authorities located him in Payson, Ariz., on Dec. 9 after he spent 29 years eluding capture. Stahlman fled Trumbull County after authorities issued an arrest warrant accusing him of fatally stabbing Bernard Williamson on a Warren street corner April 29, 1979. Stahlman, who is still in Arizona awaiting extradition to Ohio, was arrested at his Arizona home Dec. 9. He lived there after starting a new life & using a fake name. Police say Stahlman was a member of the Outlaws MC when he & others assaulted Williamson, 18, who lived on Karl Avenue Southwest,

Warren Township. Williamson was found dead with nine stab wounds to the chest & stomach in the intersection at Main Avenue & Fulton Street Southwest. If convicted of killing Williamson, Stahlman could get 15 years to life in prison.

Island man acquitted of sucker-punching cop - Dec 31, 2008 – *Canada* - A Nanaimo man associated with the Nanaimo Hells Angels has been acquitted on appeal of sucker-punching a police officer in Kamloops in 2005. Lawrence Bergstrom, named as a defendant in the ongoing civil forfeiture of the Nanaimo Hells Angels club house, was convicted of assault causing bodily harm & assaulting a police officer in April 2007. Bergstrom, 36, was arrested along with a full-patch Nanaimo member of the biker club, Patrick Royce Henry, after a fight broke out at a Kamloops hotel on July 25, 2005. The incident began as a Kamloops RCMP officer noticed a noisy group of people drinking outside a motel at about 3:30 a.m. The officer told the group to pour out their alcohol & either quiet down or go inside. When a second officer arrived the group was told they may be charged with drinking in public or causing a disturbance if they did not co-operate. The situation escalated as Henry began yelling at the officers, telling them to leave. Henry was told he was under arrest for causing a disturbance, but had to be pepper-sprayed & tasered twice before being subdued. Henry was later acquitted of assaulting police on an allegation of trying to punch an officer. “He fell to the ground [on the first Taser shot], got up & fell to the ground again after a second shot. He went into convulsions,” stated the judge who convicted Bergstrom. Bergstrom tried to get past one officer to assist Henry. He was pushed back twice by police. The judge said that was when the officer was hit by a punch “square on his lower lip.” While there were other people nearby, the judge found that they were not as close to the officer as Bergstrom. The conviction rested on a finding that there was no one else near enough to throw the punch. “In my opinion, there was no evidentiary basis to support the conclusions [of the judge],” stated Appeal Court Justice Richard Low.

2009 Contract – Dec 31, 2008 – *World* - After serious & cautious consideration . . . Your contract of friendship has been renewed for the New Year 2009! It was a very hard decision to make. So try not to screw it up!!! My Wish for You in 2009: May peace break into your house and may thieves come to steal your debts. May the pockets of your jeans become a magnet of \$100 bills. May love stick to your face like Vaseline and may laughter assault your lips! May your clothes smell of success like smoking tires and may happiness slap you across the face and may your tears be that of joy. In simple words... May 2009 be the best year of your life!!! **Happy New Year From Our House To Yours!!!**

A New Years Prayer For You – Dec 31, 2008 – *World* - It shall be well with you this year. No matter how much your enemies try this year, they will not succeed. You have been destined to make it and you shall surely achieve all your goals this year. All your agonies will be diverted and victory and prosperity will be incoming in abundance. Today God has confirmed the end of your sufferings sorrows and pains because HE that sits on the throne has remembered you. He has taken away the hardships and given you JOY. He will never let you down. Father, please protect and bless the person reading this message... Amen

If ye love wealth better than liberty, the tranquility of servitude than the animating contest of freedom, go from us in peace. We ask not your council or arms. Crouch down & lick the hands which feed you. May your chains sit lightly upon you. And may posterity forget that ye were our countrymen” - Samuel Adams

Iron Horsemen drug trial delayed until at least March - Dec 31, 2008 - *Maine* - from the Morning Sentinel - Portland Press Herald - A trial for several members of the Iron Horsemen MC, accused of running an elaborate drug ring in Maine, has been pushed back until at least March because another defendant has been charged by a federal grand jury. Ramon Dellosantos, 39, of Haverhill, Mass., made his initial appearance & arraignment at U.S. District Court in Portland on Tuesday. Standing beside defense attorney Elliot Weinstein of Boston, Dellosantos pleaded not guilty to the single charge of conspiracy to possess & distribute cocaine & marijuana. Dellosantos became the 20th defendant charged in the case, which is among the largest drug-conspiracy cases ever prosecuted in Maine. Federal prosecutors say members & supporters of the Iron Horsemen funneled drugs from Massachusetts to Maine, where they were distributed throughout the state. The ring operated from at least 2004 until December of 2007, Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel Perry has said in court documents. Richard Szpyt, president of the Maine chapter of the Iron Horsemen, is the alleged ringleader. Prosecutors seek to have his properties in Haverhill, Mass., & Old Orchard Beach, plus the property of a co-defendant in Albany Township, turned over to the government. The house in Old Orchard Beach served as the state headquarters for the Iron Horsemen. A grand jury indicted 19 defendants in March, & Dellosantos was indicted in October. Some of them face multiple charges & face a minimum of 10 years in prison if convicted. Three of the defendants have already pleaded guilty, & await sentencing. Charles Green of East Dixfield & Bruce Hill of Limerick pleaded guilty to conspiracy. Kelley Monahan of Newfield pleaded guilty to using a telephone to facilitate the distribution of marijuana. The rest of the defendants are waiting for the trial, although some or all of them could reach plea agreements in the meantime with the U.S. Attorney's Office. The case is tentatively on the March 2 trial list for Chief U.S. District Judge George Singal. Weinstein said neither he nor his client, Dellosantos, would comment. Perry, the prosecutor, said federal court rules prohibit him from discussing details of the case. According to court documents, federal investigators obtained wiretaps in the summer of 2007, & they captured "thousands of conversations & electronic communications," between the defendants. Other evidence includes seized notebooks, drugs & weapons at Szpyt's property on Ross Road in Old Orchard. The Iron Horsemen is one of the largest motorcycle clubs active in Maine. The club has chapters nationwide, with concentrated pockets in Maryland, Kentucky, Ohio & Indiana. Along with other clubs, including Hells Angels, Saracens & Bandidos, the Iron Horsemen are classified by law enforcement agencies as "outlaw motorcycle gangs." Drug investigators in Maine say motorcycle club members have played significant roles in the state's drug trade since the 1970s. Current & former members of the Iron Horsemen in Maine, however, say the club is not a gang, & has gotten a bad rap from biker movies, television shows & fan mongers. The club is incorporated as a nonprofit organization, & has participated in charitable causes such as Toys for Tots.

If you would not be forgotten as soon as you are dead, either write things worth reading or do things worth writing."
- Benjamin Franklin

Before you criticize someone walk a mile in his shoes, then when you do criticize that person you'll be a mile away & have his shoes!

Success is the ability to go from one failure to another with no loss of enthusiasm. - Churchill

Maine motorcyclists' trial pushed back - Dec 31, 2008 - *Portland, Maine* - By Associated Press - A federal grand jury has indicted another defendant in one of the biggest drug-conspiracy cases ever prosecuted in Maine. As a result, the trial for several members of the Iron Horsemen MC who are accused of running an elaborate drug ring in Maine has been pushed back until at least March. Thirty-nine-year-old Ramon Dellosantos of Haverhill, Mass., pleaded not guilty to a charge of conspiracy to possess & distribute cocaine & marijuana at his initial appearance Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Portland. Federal prosecutors say members & supporters of the Iron Horsemen funneled drugs from Massachusetts to Maine, where they were distributed throughout the state from at least 2004 until Dec 2007. There are 20 defendants in the case.

Why I Love Minnesota At Christmas Time...

When it's Christmas time in Minnesota,
And the gentle breezes blow,
About seventy miles an hour
And it's fifty-two below.
You can tell you're in Minnesota
'Cause the snow's up to your butt,
And you take a breath of Christmas air
And your nose holes both freeze shut.
The weather here is wonderful,
So I guess I'll hang around,
I could NEVER leave Minnesota.
My feet are frozen to the ground.

Wild Bill - By Richard 'Bingo' Cosby
Mad Dog's Hideaway - a biker bar -
Off the side of a main road -
Was owned by a guy named Louie -
Who lives by the 'biker's code'.
A biker rode up one sunny day
And strutted right into the bar -
Dressed all in leather - had a beard -
And in his mouth - a stubby cigar.
He ordered a beer and said: "I'm Wild Bill."
And then he started to drink his brew -
But silence fell the length of the bar -
As if the angel of death walked through!
Louie stood up and said: "OH NO!
Because that name is sacred in here!
That name is taken - I'm sorry pal,
But I won't charge you for that beer.
I'll tell you the story and maybe you'll see
Why you won't be allowed that name.
Wild Bill was killed by the Green Bay cops -
And much to their lasting shame!
A biker's biker! I want you to know!
He was respected this nationwide!
Outlaw and citizen bikers alike -
All lost a brother the day he died!
I ride a bike that that man built!
It's a Gelbke Auto four.
I hope you see why that name is out!
If you can't - then you hit the door!
That guy got up and walked right out!
A minute later and back he came!
He ordered a round for the house -
And smiling - said: "Big Bill is my name!"

Bingo is 84 years old & I have been a member of the *D.C. Eagles M.C.* for 38 years...

Long Island Cancer rally is rescheduled - Dec 31, 2008 - *New York* - A Long Island motorcycle rally for the American Cancer Society on New Year's Day has been rescheduled because of bad weather conditions. Thursday's high temperature is supposed to be only 27 degrees. Organizers of the Cold Fingers Motorcycle Run say it will take place on Sun instead. The rally benefits children with cancer. It runs from Farmingville to Farmingdale. Each year thousands of motorcycle riders take part.

Police chief gets black eye in biker fight - Jan 2, 2009 - *Deadwood, South Dakota* - Associated Press - The police chief in the Black Hills gambling town of Deadwood was taken to a hospital for stitches after responding to a brawl early Thu morning that involved bikers. Kelly Fuller got a cut above his left eye that required several stitches. He was treated at a hospital & released — & now sports a black eye. Police say members of the Deadwood Knights, a support group for the Bandidos MC, & some Bandidos fought with other patrons at the Fairmont Hotel/Oyster Bay complex. The call came in at 1:39 a.m. The bikers were having a New Year's Eve party. "We arrived at the scene & several of the gang members retreated to a vacant part of the hotel, so several of us officers were up there doing a building search room by room," Fuller told the Black Hills Pioneer. "We brought one of the suspects out of the room down the hall attempting to take him into custody when he broke away & punched me in the face," the chief said. "The 1st officers on scene saw a large number of biker colors assaulting 2 other persons. Many of those suspects then ran when officers arrived & then several were found on the upper floors. The others were able to flee the scene before officers secured it," Fuller said. One Oyster Bay employee said the fight broke out quickly. Five people, including Bandidos & Deadwood Knights members, were arrested & taken to the Lawrence County Jail. The investigation continues. One man faces a charge of aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer, resisting arrest & 3 counts of simple assault. The Lawrence County Sheriff's Office, South Dakota HP & Lead PD helped Deadwood police with the search for suspects. "We needed to clear the upstairs & didn't know how many were up there & if weapons were involved, so it was dangerous situation for officers to be in," Fuller said.

Bandidos in drug busts - Jan 2, 2009 - *Australia* - Two Warwick men linked to the notorious Bandidos outlaw motorcycle gang active in town have been charged by police with major drug offences. A vehicle was intercepted by police late on Tuesday afternoon on Palmerin Street & its driver, a 27-year-old Warwick man, was found to be in possession of more than \$5000 worth of amphetamines, likely to have been destined for New Year's Eve celebrations. In the Bandido hierarchy the man is classed as an "associate" of the club & now has a Magistrates Court appearance set down for Feb 2. Also due in court is a 20-year-old alleged Bandido "probationer", who was charged with 6 offences after police raided a Wood Street residence on Dec 19. Detective Sergeant Darren Tamblyn of the Warwick Criminal Investigation Branch (CIB) said the man already well known to police was found with cannabis & "a large quantity of cash". He is due to appear in the Magistrates Court on Jan 27. Det Sgt Tamblyn said the charging of the Bandidos pair at this time of year was a "timely reminder" to young people about the dangers of illicit drugs, especially when combined with alcohol. He also confirmed a residence on Grafton Street in Warwick previously identified by the Daily News as a suspected Bandidos gathering point was being used as a "supporters' house", the next step down from an official gang clubhouse. The premises are conspicuous with the image of a Mexican sombrero synonymous with the

gang's insignia painted across the front entrance. Det Sgt Tamblyn said police would continue to monitor outlaw motorcycle gang movements in town.

(Editorial) Cops should take wider view in criminal's arrest - Jan 3, 2009 - *Canada* - By Rob Beckett - Re: 'Hells Angels associate acquitted of punching cop; Nanaimo man was arrested after 2005 brawl in Kamloops' (Daily News, Dec. 31) Just the fact that he is apparently buddies with a criminal organization should have been enough reason to uphold the lower court conviction. In fact, the Mounties should have given them both a little stick time afterward. Since our court system is so wacked out in favor of the criminals, I have no problem with setting up known criminals & sending them off to jail. Judges are too interested in minute details & not the whole picture. Like I said, just because the guy is an associate of a criminal organization shows lack of morals & he should be shipped off to jail.

Wildlife trade crime links exposed by police - Jan 3, 2009 - *Australia* - Crime networks are behind a surge in the trade of wildlife & other live animals on the black market, according to an Australian Fed Police report. The report commissioned by the AFP has exposed the link between national criminal groups & an explosion in wildlife crime, with outlaw motorcycle gangs also said to be dabbling in the trade. The practice, worth an estimated \$20 billion a year worldwide, is the 3rd biggest threat to border security after gun running & drug smuggling. Australian Customs last year detected & seized 7533 animals, almost double the 2004 tally of 3902 cases. "It's a major issue for us," Customs national manager Janeczko said. "It's a cruel trade & most of the animals end up dying. Others are killed to produce wildlife products." Lizards, snakes & toads are favored targets as they are easy to conceal & transport & have a high street value. Crime gangs are also believed to be trading illegal & dangerous animals to keep as pets or, in the case of stuffed animals, particularly scorpions & stuffed bears, to decorate bikie gangs' clubhouses. Analysis of Internet trading sites such as eBay revealed an increase in the trade of elephant ivory, which is rare & banned in Australia.

Extradition Hearing Looms For Gang Member Wanted In Aussie - Jan 5, 2009 - *New Zealand* - A motorcycle gang member, wanted in Australia for his alleged role in an ambush on a rival gang, faces an extradition hearing in Wanganui District Court next month. Australian police say Peter Douglas Rauhina, 37, who appeared in Wanganui District Court today, was a member of the Rebels motorcycle gang, & involved in an ambush on the rival Bandidos gang in Feb 2007. He was arrested in New Plymouth, where he was living, last month on charges of injuring with intent & disorderly behavior following an alleged domestic incident. Judge Radford withdrew those charges today. Rauhina is in custody at Wanganui prison until the hearing on Feb 17.

Indian Chief 'Two Eagles' was asked by a white government official, 'You have observed the white man for 90 years. You've seen his wars & his technological advances. You've seen his progress, & the damage he's done.' The Chief nodded in agreement. The official continued, 'Considering all these events, in your opinion, where did the white man go wrong?' The Chief stared at the government official for over a minute & then calmly replied, 'When white man find land, Indians running it, no taxes, no debt, plenty buffalo, plenty beaver, clean water. Women did all the work, Medicine man free. Indian man spend all day hunting & fishing; all night having sex.' Then the chief leaned back & smiled. 'Only white man dumb enough to think he could improve system like that.'

Christmas calm split by bikie brawling - Jan 6, 2009 - *Australia* - By Marianna Papadakis - The frivolity of the holiday season is sheer veneer at Brighton-Le-Sands as stoushes between rival bikie gangs continue. Businesses & residents are concerned a new gang is trying to infiltrate the busy seaside shopping precinct after a fight broke out with members of the Commancheros motorcycle group about 2.30pm on Sunday. Witnesses said Commancheros members were sitting at Brighton-Le-Sands Cafe on Bay Street when up to 30 men gathered on the street outside & pushed over parked motorcycles & smashed the restaurant front & furniture. "There was blood splattered everywhere," said one man who watched the events unfold from nearby Brighton-Le-Sands RSL Club. "Cars were damaged. Things were flying everywhere." A NSW Ambulance spokeswoman said ambulances went to the scene but no one was taken to hospital. St George police crime manager, Acting Inspector Trent King, said the men involved were described as of Middle Eastern appearance in their early 20s & wearing dark-coloured shirts. "Police are checking CCTV cameras & canvassing the area," he said. The incident has not been linked to existing rivalry between the Commancheros & Hell's Angels gangs which emerged after a series of shootings & a firebombing last year forced the closure of nearby Angels On The Bay cosmetic tattooing parlour & left Brighton-Le-Sands business owners in fear. It is understood owners of the Brighton-Le-Sands Cafe, which opened over Christmas, suffered more than \$50,000 worth of damage from smashed windows, doors & furniture. A Lebanese restaurant will open in its place after renovations.

Bikies face court over alleged 'prison protection' blackmail - Jan 6, 2009 - *Australia* - An Adelaide court has heard that two brothers were allegedly blackmailed over protection they received while in prison. It was alleged that \$100,000 was demanded for protection provided in prison & that the victims were told to pay the money or they & their families would be shot. 28-year-old Travis Lemm of Trott Park & 51-year old Frank Borg of Semaphore Park have been charged with blackmail. Lemm also faces unlawful possession & drug trafficking charges. The court heard Lemm was a senior member & Borg an associate member of the Finks MC. Prosecutors said police were also seeking to arrest a nominee member of the Finks, Jason Kingston, who had been in jail with one of the victims. Lemm was arrested on Monday at Adelaide Airport. It is alleged he was there in the belief he would collect the money. Lemm did not apply for bail while Borg was granted bail. Both will return to court next week.

Search for best friend of bikie - Jan 6, 2009 - *Australia* - Police are searching for the best friend of missing former Gypsy Jokers Pres Steve Williams over an alleged \$100,000 prison protection & blackmail racket. Prosecutors yesterday named Jason Kingston as 1 of 3 men - including a Finks bikie - involved in the scheme. They told Adelaide Magistrates Court the alleged victims were "realistically" in danger despite the arrests of Travis Lemm & Frank Borg. "We cannot find the third offender, Jason Kingston, at this stage," prosecuting Sen-Sgt Bruce Faehrmann said.

Bikers strap on fruit to dodge helmet law - Jan 6, 2009 - *Nigeria* - Police in Nigeria have arrested scores of motorcycle taxi riders with dried fruit shells, pots or pieces of rubber tire tied to their heads with string to avoid a new law requiring them to wear helmets. The regulations have caused chaos around Africa's most populous nation, with motorcyclists complaining helmets are too expensive and some passengers refusing to wear them fearing they will catch skin disease or be put under a black magic spell.

Growing Links Seen Between Hells Angels & Neo-Nazis - Jan 6, 2009 - *Germany* - The man who generally goes by the nickname Maxe wanted to become a model citizen, at least that's what he said after his release from prison. Markus W. made headlines during a World Cup match over 10 years ago when he & other German football hooligans viciously attacked French policeman Daniel Nivel, leaving him severely disabled. For his part in the attack, Maxe served four years in a French prison for causing "grievous bodily harm." After his early release in 2002, he promised to transform from a right-wing thug to a social worker. He wanted to study social sciences & work with people who "have problems with society." Maxe said he hoped that young people could benefit from his experience: "I can tell you, boys, violence doesn't pay." But only 10 weeks after he was released from prison, police were once again investigating him on aggravated assault charges - although they couldn't prove anything. Following the broadcast of the World Cup final soccer match between Germany & Brazil in the summer of 2002, he was involved in a brawl at a fair near his hometown of Hanover. Since then, Maxe has regularly appeared before judges on a variety of charges - like insulting a Turk or assaulting an Algerian. Although he no longer aspires to become a social worker, he has managed to climb the social ladder in one sense: Maxe has worked his way through the ranks in Hanover to become a leading member in the local charter of the Hells Angels motorcycle gang. Aside from his violent history, German authorities have been keeping an eye on Markus W. because he is part of an alarming development. All across Germany investigators have noted an increasing number of contacts between German motorcycle gangs & militant neo-Nazis. Observations of the far-right scene by agents of the country's domestic intelligence agency, the Fed Office for the Protection of the Constitution, revealed connections to motorcycle gangs, the government said in a recent statement. It also noted "occasional" indications of "joint activities & meeting places as well as isolated cases of cooperation between right-wing extremists (especially skinheads) & motorcycle gangs, primarily at a local level."

Close Links Seen in Hanover: Such "joint activities" at a "local level" take place in Berlin, Brandenburg, Saxony-Anhalt, Saxony & Baden-Württemberg. According to investigators, though, the closest connections between motorcycle gangs & right-wing extremists exist at the Hanover charter of the Hells Angels. The Hanover boss of the Angels, Frank H., has promoted Markus W. to the position of club secretary, making him his right-hand man & bringing him into the inner circle of this strictly hierarchical club, alongside the treasurer & the sergeant at arms, who is responsible for security. This marks a disturbing development for investigators at the State Office for Criminal Investigation (LKA) in Lower Saxony because the Hanover charter is not just any group -- it is recognized as the largest in Germany & one of the most influential in the worldwide Hells Angels organization. The LKA in Lower Saxony says that the club in Hanover has connections to organized crime. A team of eight investigators is currently looking into the activities of the motorcycle gang. These law enforcement officials have dubbed themselves EG1, or the "one-percent investigating group," a reference to the Angels' claim that 99 percent of their members are law-abiding citizens, while only one percent are self-proclaimed outlaws.

'Structured Like a Company': Although the Hells Angels do their best to maintain the myth of a peaceful club of rugged Boy Scouts on motorcycles, the investigators of EG1 say that many Angels operate like a criminal gang. They "delegate responsibilities & work in a calculated & systematic manner," says Frank Federau of the LKA, adding that they hire the services of PR professionals &

top-flight lawyers. In some ways they are “structured like a company.” Investigators have discovered a complex network with right-wing links, from seemingly harmless tattoo parlors to paramilitary units. And they suspect that illegal sources of income are disguised behind security services, merchandising & events. One such event was the Tattoo Convention held last year in Hanover -- organized by secretary Markus W., alias Maxe. He ensured that shops with close ties to the far-right scene were given every opportunity to display their services. They included a tattoo & piercing parlor located in a nearby town & managed by Hannes F. & Marcel U., two martial arts experts with long-term connections to the militant neo-Nazi scene. The two men have also come a long way in the Hanover charter of the Hells Angels, rising from “hangarounds” to “prospects” -- the final stage before being accepted in the club as a full-fledged member. Shop owner Hannes F. takes obvious pleasure in serving his customers, & piercer Marcel U. appears particularly eager to welcome “customers who love to experiment.” As a source of inspiration he presents tattoo designs that are popular among right-wing extremists, including Wehrmacht soldiers & mysterious runic symbols used by neo-Nazis. They also proudly display a photo album with a picture of a tattoo that is clearly reminiscent of Adolf Hitler’s erstwhile deputy Rudolf Hess. Research by investigators has shown that Hannes F. has been a member of a racist sect called “Artgemeinschaft” (“Community of Species”) as well as of the neo-Nazi group “Hildesheim Kameradschaft.” In March 2008, he had to appear before the district court in Halle, in the eastern German state of Saxony-Anhalt. He was charged with working for the “Lower Saxony section” of “Blood & Honor,” an international network that markets extreme right-wing bands & has been banned in Germany since 2000. The court found that there was convincing proof that Hannes F. had organized far-right events in the spirit of Blood & Honor even after the ban -- & he was given a fine. Johannes K. was a co-defendant in the trial in Halle -- & he also has ties to the Hells Angels. He & Hannes F. know each other from the days when they were in Blood & Honor. K. has a tattoo parlor in Hildesheim. The shop drums up business for the motorcycle gang’s activities in the red light scene, & sells Hells Angels’ merchandising articles.

Combat Training: Johannes K. is a prime example of the myriad connections between motorcycle gangs & right-wing extremists. In addition to the tattoo parlor, K. also runs an army shop with special equipment “from soldiers, for soldiers.” In his self-styled “Combat & Survival School,” the military aficionado offers a variety of courses, including “marksmanship” training. According to investigators, the paramilitary exercises organized by Johannes K. were also attended by a member of the “Self-Defense Service of Saxony-Anhalt.” This militant group -- whose German abbreviation “SS-SA” blatantly alludes to the Nazi period -- serves as a “national security service” & provides guards at events held by right-wing extremist groups. The Angels need a good deal of security to protect themselves from nosy outsiders. Even their local clubhouse -- Angels Place -- is guarded by burly men. It stands well protected at the end of a cul-de-sac in Hanover. Unwanted visitors are kept out by muscular guards. This is the local headquarters of Hells Angels boss Frank H., a huge former boxer who is well known to the authorities. Just last December, he threw a party for Angels from all across Germany & wished them “a real good time.” Strippers worked hard to create the right party mood -- & the beer from in-house brand “81” did the rest. The name “81” stands for the eighth & the first letter of the alphabet: “HA” as in Hells Angels. There were also a number of visitors to the party who get their kicks out of the number “18” -- in reference to the letters “AH” for Adolf Hitler. The logo “Max H8”

was also visible on the clothing of a number of revelers: “H8” encodes the number “88,” which stands for the banned Heil Hitler greeting still favored by many in the right-wing extremist milieu. At the same time, “Max H8” stands for “maximum hate.”

Code of Silence: Although the police are continuously observing the club, it’s hard to pin anything on the Angels. The motorcycle gang in Hanover officially maintains that it is totally apolitical. At least that is the explanation provided by press liaison Django. He says that symbols with a Nazi connection are not political statements, but merely a provocation by some members. The Hells Angels admit that some of their members have a long criminal record, but they point out that this is no reason to stop them joining. The main thing is that they respect the rules of the organization. One of these rules is a ban on cooperating with the authorities. Motorcycle gangs, just like the Mafia, observe the omertà -- the code of silence. Just a few weeks ago, investigators in Lower Saxony looked on in frustration as the brotherhood of bikers got off lightly once again. A total of 14 Hells Angels from Bremen faced charges in Hanover in connection with the brutal attack on members of a rival gang, the Bandidos. After only 2 days of proceedings, the judge, public prosecutor & defense agreed to a deal, in large part because the state witness, a former Angel, suddenly refused to testify. As a result, 11 Hells Angels immediately got off with a suspended sentence. “Gentlemen, stay out of trouble,” said Judge Jürgen Seifert as he admonished the howling & hooting bikers. Wishful thinking. The gang members who had traveled to the trial brazenly clapped their hands. In the last row of spectators a smiling Angel applauded. He was wearing a Lonsdale sweatshirt - a popular brand among right-wing extremists.

Mongols’ founder back in Lane County jail – Jan 7, 2009 – **Oregon** - The founder of the Oregon chapter of the Mongols MC turned himself in to the Lane County Jail on Tuesday, four months after he allegedly fled the state in violation of a court order. Justin “Mooch” DeLoretto, 27, had been wanted for violating terms of his probation. He was convicted last June in Lane County Circuit Court of trying to run a pair of police investigators off Interstate 5. One day after he was sentenced to a year behind bars, jail officials released DeLoretto because of a lack of available space in the understaffed facility.

Hells Angels shooting conspiracy charges still looming - Jan 9, 2009 - **Sioux Falls, South Dakota** - AP - Prosecutors have a week to decide whether to pursue a 2nd trial against 2 Hells Angels bikers acquitted of trying to kill 5 people affiliated with the Outlaws MC. Chad Wilson of San Diego & John Midmore of Valparaiso, Ind., were found not guilty Nov. 20 in Sioux Falls of attempted first-degree murder for a 2006 gunfight at Custer State Park. Midmore is out on bail, but Wilson was charged in federal court with being a nonimmigrant alien in possession of a firearm & transferred to Sioux Falls. The judge handling the state charges gave prosecutors until Jan. 15 to indicate if they want to try both men of conspiracy to commit first-degree murder, which carries a punishment of life in prison if convicted.

A man was lying in bed with his new girlfriend. After having great sex, she spent the next hour just scratching his nuts, something she seemed to love to do. As he was enjoying it, he turned & asked her, ‘Why do you love doing that?’ Because,’ she replied, ‘I really miss mine’.

I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them. - Thomas Jefferson

St. Louis murder victim had rallied bikers for crime victims – Jan 11, 2009 – *Missouri* - By Jeremy Kohler - Terry L. Darris was the president of a motorcycle club trying to change the perception of motorcycle clubs as violent. His cadre of 50 riders - Ghost Doggs MC - serves turkey dinners to the homeless on Thanksgiving and has held at least six rallies in recent years to raise money for the families of violent crime victims. Last week, Darris, 42, of north St. Louis County, became a murder victim himself, outside the club's headquarters on the 2900 block of Locust Street. An alarm connected to his key fob went off about 8 p.m. Thu, alerting him that someone was trying to break into his Chevrolet Suburban parked outside. When he went to investigate, he was shot twice in the back.

Thin blue line appears blurred in biker clubs – Jan 11, 2008 – *Minnesota* - By Rubén Rosario; TwinCity.com - The Iron Brotherhood has an eye-catching, if ominous-looking, Web site home page: A human skull, its mouth open & its eye sockets painted blue, faces the viewer. A German Iron Cross frames the skull. Meanwhile, lightning bolts flash across the black background while the opening guitar riffs from Black Sabbath's "I Am Iron Man" play. Heavy metal rock band? Biker gang? Perhaps even a neo-Nazi or white-supremacist group? Guess again. Iron Brotherhood is an off-duty law-enforcement motorcycle club formed in 2006. "We are bikers who happen to be cops who share a common bond," states a brief overview of the male-only club. "We are dedicated to our profession & our brotherhood." The group is just one of an increasing number of off-duty law-enforcement motorcycle clubs (LEMCs) sprouting across the country & blurring the lines, at least in appearance, between the good guys & the allegedly not-so-good guys. In fact, given the skulls, tattoos, leather vests or poses on "hogs" that appear in photo galleries, the average bloke would be hard-pressed to distinguish, say, the Hell's Angels from the Iron Pigs, Wild Pigs, Untouchables, Renegades, Blue Steel or City Heat, a Chicago-based club that has a Twin Cities chapter. There are "striking similarities in self-presentation," notes Mitch Librett, a retired New Rochelle, N.Y., cop, criminologist & author of "Wild Pigs & Outlaws: The Kindred Worlds of Policing & Outlaw Bikers" (Crime, Media & Culture Journal). "The 'colors,' slogans, & monikers adopted by the members are often indistinguishable," adds Librett, a motorcycle enthusiast himself & assistant professor of criminal justice at Bridgewater State College in Massachusetts. Librett adds that both outlaws & lawmen attracted to the biker culture embrace living on the edge, though on seemingly opposite sides of the law. Indeed, quite a number of local Twin Cities cops who are members of City Heat belong to high-adrenaline, high-risk units such as SWAT, the bomb squad or street narcotics. To be sure, there is nothing illegal about this off-duty association. Many cop-biker fraternal organizations are established & regularly conduct fundraising "runs" for worthy causes. They include Blue Knights International, for example, which has donated more than \$7 million in goods & cash to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Toys for Tots, Make-A-Wish Foundation & others. City Heat also promotes charity runs on its Web pages. But some of the more mainstream & family-oriented outfits such as Blue Knights express concern over a recent surge of "fringe" elements. They also point to problems such as the confrontation between Seattle members of the Iron Pigs LEMC & the Hell's Angels last summer at the annual Sturgis, S.D., motorcycle rally. An off-duty cop shot & wounded a Hells Angel. Investigators decided the officer acted in self-defense. The brawl that led to the shooting reportedly stemmed from a dispute over vest patch insignia. "We have strived to be the very opposite of anything outlaw," said Mike

Ripsch, the Blue Knights' outgoing president & a retired cop from Illinois. "But the sad fact of the matter is that, if somebody does something wrong or acts questionable & it becomes known that he is a cop (LEMC or not), the brush is wide & it affects us all," Ripsch said. "Some of our own do a pretty good job of shooting ourselves in the foot at times." Added Librett: "I really have to question why any police officer would feel that emulating the (outlaw) lifestyle is an attractive way to spend their free time. There is a danger there."

Biker arrested at strip club – Jan 12, 2009 – *Massachusetts* - By Marc Munroe Dion - Police led an armed Sidewinders motorcycle gang member out of a strip club & into custody Sunday after club security claimed he refused to leave. Edward D. "Mingo" Wilson was taken into custody at King's Inn, located at 635 State Road, after he engaged in a heated argument with the club's manager. King's Inn management said Wilson stated, "If the cops show up, I'll kill everyone here." Dartmouth & State Police escorted Wilson from the club without incident. Wilson was frisked & police found a folding knife in his possession. Wilson was placed under arrest for trespassing after notice, & was arraigned in Third District Court on Mon morning on that charge & a charge of threatening to commit a crime.

Feds say more charges coming in biker probe - Jan 13, 2009 - *Detroit, Michigan* - Federal prosecutors in Detroit are urging a judge to keep a man affiliated with a motorcycle club behind bars while they develop charges that could lead to a life sentence. Aref Nagi of Sterling Heights has been in custody since October 2006. Prosecutors fear he could flee if released before trial on charges of conspiring to sell drugs. But Nagi's lawyer says authorities can keep track of him with an electronic tether. Ahead of a hearing Wed, Assistant U.S. Atty Diane Marion says a new indictment with racketeering charges is in the works. It's part of a long-running investigation of the Highwaymen motorcycle club. A message seeking comment was left with Nagi's attorney Tue.

Hearing continued for Hells Angel shot in Sturgis - Jan 14, 2009 – *South Dakota* - By Jason Gross, Meade County Times-Tribune - The Hells Angels motorcycle gang member charged for assault in an Aug. 9 bar fight in Sturgis will have until Feb. 23 to heal from recent surgery. Defense atty Angela Colbath asked for the delay in case hearings Monday in Meade County court. She said her client, Joseph P. McGuire, was released from the hospital Sunday after undergoing surgery in Dec related to gunshot wounds he suffered in the scuffle. McGuire used a cane to walk while at the courthouse. "He needs to be taken care of physically," Colbath said. Meade County State's Attorney Jesse Sondreal did not object to continuing the hearing. McGuire is charged for fighting with an off-duty Seattle police officer, who authorities say shot McGuire in self defense. The confrontation involved the officer & other members of the Iron Pigs, a motorcycle group of firefighters & police officers, at the Loud American Roadhouse.

An elderly couple, who were both widowed, had been going out with each other for a long time. Urged on by their friends, they decided it was finally time to get married. Before the wedding they went out to dinner & had a long conversation regarding how their marriage might work, they discussed finances, living arrangements, & so on; finally, the old gentleman decided it was time to broach the subject of their physical relations. 'How do you feel about sex?' he asked, rather tentatively. 'I would like it infrequently' she replied. The old gentleman sat quietly for a moment, adjusted his glasses & leaned over towards her & whispered, Is that one word or two?

Biker gangs tied to slaying? – Jan 14, 2009 - *Pennsylvania* - By Cindy Stauffer & Tom Murse - Troy L. Martin spent the last moments of his life with a longtime friend, Russell E. Samuels. Samuels, 58, a Honey Brook man who witnessed Martin's murder, has had ties to the Pagan's MC, according to news accounts & a law enforcement source. And now authorities are exploring whether there is a link between that gang & the killing, the source said. Samuels was part of a Pagans/Amish drug ring that operated locally 10 years ago. Martin, 45, of Earl Township, in turn, had ties to Strong Arm Productions, a local motorcycle club that serves as a feeder or associate club of the Pagans, the source said. New Holland Police today declined to comment on whether Martin's shooting, which the county district attorney has labeled an "assassination," had anything to do with the Pagans. Martin was shot in the chest & abdomen late Saturday night as he got out of Samuels' car at his home, at the end of a dead-end street off Route 322 near Hinkletown. His mother, Suzanne, said earlier this week that Martin had been out on the town that night with Samuels, a longtime friend. Police said a man in a red Ford SUV followed Samuels & Martin down Clearview Avenue to Martin's home. The man, who hid his face with an article of clothing, then shot Martin & fled. Sources said Martin was a member of Strong Arm Productions, a relatively new motorcycle club that has members in Lancaster City & eastern Lancaster County. Its members are known to frequent bars in the New Holland area, where they occasionally get into fights, said a law enforcement source familiar with the group. The club's emblem is a clenched fist & an upper arm flexing its bicep. Strong Arm is known as a feeder club for the Pagans, a law enforcement official said. Strong Arm members sometimes ride with & associate with the Pagans and, if the chemistry is right, may be asked to join the club, a source said. Lancaster County has served as a base for the Pagans over the years. Its national secretary-treasurer, now in prison on drug & money laundering charges, formerly lived in West Hempfield Township. The Lancaster County chapter president, a longtime Lancaster postal worker, was killed in 2002 in a brawl between the Pagans & the Hells Angels in New York. The Pagans, along with the Sons of Satan, also maintained a clubhouse in Rapho Township for about 20 years, police said. The clubhouse was destroyed in a pipe bombing in 2002, during what police said may have been a gang feud. The U.S. Dept of Justice, on its Web site, says the Pagans are one of the most prominent Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs in the Mid-Atlantic region, with an estimated 200 to 250 members in 41 chapters in 11 states. The Pagans have been tied to traditional organized crime groups in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh & New York & have engaged in criminal activities such as drug trafficking, arson, assault, bombing, extortion & murder, according to the Justice Dept. Samuels, who did not return several calls for comment, is not a stranger to the club. He was among six members & Pagans associates who pleaded guilty in 1998 to distributing as much as \$1 million in cocaine & methamphetamines to several Lancaster County Amish youths throughout Lancaster & Chester counties. According to federal indictments in the case, the Pagans obtained drugs & sold them to Amish people for distribution in Lancaster County at hoedowns — traditional gatherings for Amish & other teens & young adults. Samuels was identified by federal officials as a "Hang-Around" in the case. So-called "Hang-Arounds" or "Prospects" were allowed to associate & socialize with the Pagans, but had to go through a hazing period to become full members, federal authorities said at the time. Samuels pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute drugs & was sentenced to four years in prison. At his sentencing in 1999, he told a judge that before his arrest he had decided to change his lifestyle & become a Christian. He added that he was sorry for his mistakes & had made many positive steps toward a

better life & was "getting old to start over again." Samuels has an extensive criminal record in addition to the indictment in the Amish/Pagan drug ring. In 1988, he was charged with aggravated assault, resisting arrest & disorderly conduct, according to court records. He pleaded guilty to the latter two charges & was sentenced to two years of probation. In 1995, he pleaded guilty to receiving stolen property & was sentenced to two years of probation. The charge stemmed from a police search warrant at his home that turned up stolen motorcycle parts. Since his release from jail on the Amish drug ring charges, Samuels has had other problems with the law. In 2007, Samuels was charged with incidents involving death or personal injury, driving under the influence of alcohol & traffic offenses related to an accident outside a New Holland bar. According to the criminal complaint, Samuels ran over a man with his H-D motorcycle in the parking lot of The Pub on East Main Street in July 2007, & then drove away. A test showed Samuels' blood-alcohol level was 0.167, which is above the legal threshold for drunken driving, according to the criminal complaint. Samuels told police there was a disagreement in the bar & he was trying to leave, according to the criminal complaint in the case. Samuels said "he didn't know if he hit someone or something when he left," according to the complaint. Samuels said the incident was "all over (expletive)." The alleged victim was treated at Ephrata Community Hospital for non-life threatening injuries. Samuels posted \$5,000 bail & was released. A pre-trial conference on the case is scheduled for next month. Martin also had a history of criminal problems, involving assaults, a weapons charge & disorderly conduct. His most serious offense was in 2004, when New Holland police charged Martin with aggravated assault, reckless endangerment, public drunkenness & a weapons offense after a fight at The Ritz on Main, 138 E. Main St., New Holland. According to newspaper records, the owner of the Ritz told police he had been assaulted by a patron, who had later been removed from the establishment. While searching for that patron, police heard popping noises from the rear of a nearby drugstore. They found Martin, who had a .32-caliber handgun & a switchblade on him. The suspect in the assault of the club owner told police that Martin chased him & fired a gunshot at him, according to newspaper records. Court records indicate Martin pleaded guilty to possessing an illegal weapon & reckless endangerment. He was sentenced to probation. Strong Arm Productions is listed on a Web site run by the Eastern Pennsylvania Federation of Clubs, a group that claims to help "abolish discrimination toward motorcyclists, & increase communications within the motorcycle communities." Two attys listed on the Web site as contacts for the Federation of Clubs - one is from Norristown & the other from West Chester - did not return phone calls on Tue.

Bandidos leader gets 9 years in jail – Jan 14, 2009 – *Sweden* - The leader of the Bandidos criminal gang, Mehdi Seyyed, has been sentenced to nine years in jail for his part in two 2006 car bombing incidents in Gothenburg. Four other Bandidos members received shorter sentences for their involvement in the attacks on two cars in Gothenburg on Sept 19th & 20th 2006.

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**, Outlaw Biker World, & White Trash Biker...

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