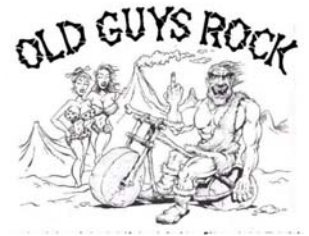
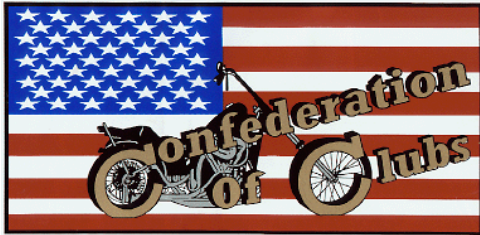


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Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter...

February 2009 – Issue 2...



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

NCOM Sponsors this Newsletter with a donation of \$200.00 per month. NCOM; Richard And Joseph Lester; Attorneys At Law...
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Michigan SteelHorse Riders MC Cappy, Chino, Defender, & Q donates \$ 25.00 a month...
SOS MC/ Silent Thunder MC Clubhouse in Fargo, North Dakota makes a Great donations each month...

Thanks goes to **Too Tall** from *ABATE* of *Minnesota* for his \$ 100.00 donation...

Welcome **Iron Horsemen Richard** to the NCOM BBB Newsletter Mailing List...

Welcome **Invader Dragon** to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter Mailing List...

Welcome **LongRiders PeeWee** to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter Mailing List...

Welcome **Bandido Time (Finland)** and **Bandido Kaide (Finland)** to the NCOM BBB Newsletter Mailing List...

Correction: In February Issue 1, In Sane Jane is a Lady; I had “her” listed as a “his”...

Editor’s Note: For December there were 3 issues, For January there were 2 issues, For February this is the 2nd issue...

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

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

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

Editor’s Note: The current NCOM BBB Mailing List includes 1 Avengers, 37 Bandidos, 2 Banshees, 1 Boozefighters, 2 BPM, 6 Breed, 1 Brother Speed, 1 Christian Motorcycle Association, 3 Death Squad, 9 Devils Diciples, 6 Diablos, 2 El Forasteros, 3 Finks, 1 Free Souls, 1 Forsaken Few, 1 Gypsy Jokers, 17 Hells Angels, 1 Hells Outcast, 1 Hermano, 1 In Country Vietnam, 7 Iron Horsemen, 1 Iron Ranger, 1 Iron Wings, 3 Liberty Riders, 1 Longriders, 1 Mohawk Valley Riders, 7 Mongols, 1 Nomads, 42 Outlaws, 14 Pagan’s, 2 Phantom’s, 4 Pharaoh’s, 1 Reapers, 1 Renegades, 1 Salramanials, 2 Scorpions, 9 Sons Of Silence, 1 Sundowners, 1 Sovereigns, 1 Thunderbird, 1 Unforegiven, 2 Vagos, 1 Viet Nam Vet, & 5 Warlocks... Of which: 5 - Australia, 3 – England, 2 - Norway, 2 Finland, & 4 - Sweden...
Total of 208...

Editor’s Note: Being a Patch holder in Good Standings does have it privileges, And this is one of them... If you are not a patch holder of a Motorcycle Club in Good Standings, Don’t write me and request that I add you to the mailing list... You will only get rejected, as I only make very few special exceptions...

A biker is riding along a country lane, when a sparrow flies up in front of him. The biker can’t do anything and hits the sparrow. As he looks in his rear view mirror, he sees the sparrow lying in the road. Being the kind of guy he is, he stops, picks up the sparrow and takes it home and puts it in a cage, still in a coma. When the sparrow wakes up the following morning, he looks through the bars of the cage and says, “Shit, I must have killed the biker”.

“The Forsaken Few”

Hey my Brothers in the Forsaken Few; walk tall and be proud;
Because you’ll always stand out from a straight laced crowd...

For the True Blood of an outlaw runs in your Veins;
Along with good whiskey and a few other things...

We stumble and stagger and sometimes we fall;
But your Brothers stuck by you until the end...

We’ve seen our share of heartache, Misery, and doubt;
But its fast Harleys and firm fellin’ women that we know about...

We get beat down and busted when we fight the law;
But we weather the hard times and fly our Patch through it all...

So My Brothers the Forsaken Few, live hard and be proud of the name;
Because we’ve played ‘em and beat ‘em at their own little game...

By Geary Mack Bailey AKA Oklahoma Road Rat F.F.M.C.
Road Rat is currently FCI - Texarkana, Texas

Iron Pigs and the challenge to the off duty carry law: more about what really happened – Feb 3, 2009 – *South Dakota - Part two of a two-part series* - As detailed in Part one, four peace officers from Washington State and a firefighter from Colorado—all members of the police motorcycle club the Iron Pigs—were involved in a controversial altercation at a roadhouse with members of the Hells Angels during the annual bike rally last August in Sturgis, S.D. One of the IP’s, Seattle Det. Ronald Smith, as he was being choked and beaten, shot and seriously wounded one of the HAs. The outlaw biker he shot was indicted for aggravated assault. Much to their surprise, considering that they had not initiated the violent conflict, the officers and the fireman were indicted on criminal charges as well. We continue with our exclusive behind-the-scenes report.

The Charges: To the accused officers and the attorneys they retained in South Dakota, their indictments seemed bafflingly and alarmingly—bogus. Smith had fired his Glock 23 in defense of his life, while being pummeled and strangled to the point of near unconsciousness. Yet he was charged with agg assault, a felony, the same as the biker who had allegedly attacked him without provocation. He was also charged with perjury, another felony. In a sworn statement, he said that the Glock was his personal weapon. The prosecutor’s office had called his agency in Seattle and been told by email that the gun was department-issued. The two are identical in make and model, and the department was wrong. “Chicken shit at best” in any case, says one of the defense attorneys, Robert Van Norman. But without further checking, the grand jury indicted him for lying. All five of the Iron Pigs, who’d readily admitted to being armed, were indicted for carrying concealed weapons in an establishment that derives more than half its revenue from alcohol sales. That’s against a misdemeanor offense in South Dakota, punishable by a \$2,000 fine and up to a year in jail. But according to Van Norman, there was no posting of the restriction at the Loud American Roadhouse, the bar-restaurant where the shooting occurred, and the business has never been tested as to its revenue breakdown. More important, however, the officers—Smith and Sgt. Dennis McCoy from Seattle P.D. and James Rector and Scott Lazalde from U.S. Customs and Border Protection—believed they were immune to CCW charges because of the federal Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 (commonly known as HR 218), which, with

few exceptions, allows off duty and retired peace officers to carry concealed in any jurisdiction in the U.S. In the interest of public protection, LEOSA was intended to supersede state, county, and municipal regulations, according to Ted Deeds, chief operating officer of the Law Enforcement Alliance of America, which initiated and lobbied for the legislation for more than a decade before it was finally enacted. At least twice the law had been tested and upheld in court, Deeds says. Some observers, both in and out of law enforcement, have questioned the judgment of the accused officers for socializing at a place where they might encounter outlaw bikers. Deeds, a former deputy sheriff and a retired part-time police officer, acknowledges that there may be “legitimate debate” on that subject. But, he says, they were in “a public place where they had a legal right to be” and when their safety was jeopardized “they had an absolute right to defend themselves.” And, he felt strongly, they fully deserved to be shielded from criminal prosecution by LEOSA. “Once shit goes down, we want cops to come out okay,” he says emphatically. He volunteered his organization’s vigorous assistance regarding political contacts and intimate knowledge of LEOSA’s history to attorney Van Norman and his associate, Kenneth Orrock, in the officers’ defense. Orrock, a new hire at the defense firm, Nooney, Solay & Van Norman in Rapid City, had just recently taken the bar exam; he would hear that he’d passed while this case was in progress. Before studying to be a lawyer, he’d spent 10 years as an Army counter-intelligence agent and about a dozen years as a deputy sheriff in California and South Dakota. In his gut, he knew cops...and he especially felt the emotional impact of what lay at stake.

The Fall-Out: One of the accused officers—we’re calling him “Steven Shane”—spoke to PoliceOne on condition of anonymity. “This case put our lives through hell,” he says. The Seattle officers were first placed on administrative leave, then reassigned to other duties. Smith went to communications and McCoy took accrued sick leave rather than accept reassignment. Those with Customs were suspended with pay for 30 days and “received a letter that threatened indefinite suspension without pay, with the possibility of termination,” Shane says. After the suspension, these officers were placed on unarmed light duty and forbidden to work overtime, significantly affecting their income. Every five days they “had to request an extension that could have been denied, creating tremendous anxiety,” Shane says. Everyone, of course, was subjected to I.A. investigations. “I had numerous awards in my files, a very successful career,” Shane says. “Now it was in the media that we were in a ‘brawl’ in a ‘biker bar,’ indicted on ‘weapons charges.’ Neighbors stopped waving to me. People thought we were smuggling guns through the border. They said, ‘There must have been more that went on than what you said or you wouldn’t have been charged. You must not be telling the truth.’ “We had lawyer fees and trips back to South Dakota to pay for. We didn’t know what they might do to us back there. Would I lose my house? My job? Would I have to do jail time? One of the biggest Hells Angels chapters in the world is near here, in Vancouver. The HAs are one of the largest violent criminal organizations there is. Would they come down and retaliate? It all put tremendous strain on our families.” “Psychologically,” says Van Norman, “nothing is harder for a law enforcement officer than being charged with violating criminal law. Plus, they got stripped bare during the criminal process. Home addresses, home phone numbers were floating around. Some of these officers have done very dangerous work. They were all very, very nervous about the general public knowing much about them.”

The Prosecution: When the issue about Smith's pistol was eventually resolved and it was shown that he'd been truthful about it being his personal weapon, the prosecutor, State's Atty. Jesse Sondreal, dropped the perjury charge against him. Sondreal also dropped the aggravated assault when he became convinced that the detective had fired in self-defense. But he tenaciously continued to pursue the CCW count against the four officers and their federal firefighter companion that night, Eric Pingel from Colorado. "I tried to talk to him, others tried to talk to him," says Deeds, "but he 100% stonewalled people who were supporting the cops." Why? Shane still can't figure it out, and even the attorneys who know the local territory can't answer with certainty. Some observers speculate that the prosecution and the grand jury wanted to "send a message" that violence won't be tolerated at the annual bike rally, regardless of who's involved; the event reportedly has gotten tamer in recent years compared to its notorious past, and the locals want to keep it that way. Other sources cite "political ambition," noting that with officers as defendants, the case was guaranteed to attract attention in a largely rural area where headline-grabbing opportunities are relatively scarce. "The prosecutor likely got more media play out of this than any other case in his career," Deeds asserts. Still others say that prosecutor Sondreal was misled early on and was too stubborn to back down. Van Norman, Orrock, and Deeds point out that the state's attorney apparently relied on an erroneous claim made by a representative of the ATF regional office in Denver that LEOSA was not yet in effect as the law of the land. That was wrong; it has been in force since 2004, when it was signed into law by President Bush, with Deeds in attendance at that event. But as with the status of Smith's gun, the truth did not surface until after the indictments. According to Van Norman and Orrock, the prosecutor did offer their clients an "easy" out. If a circuit court judge approved, he'd let the defendants accept a "suspended imposition of conviction," an option available under South Dakota law. In effect, Orrock explains, this meant they would plead guilty or "no contest," the judge would "refuse" to enter the plea, and if they stayed out of trouble for six months, the case would be dismissed with no conviction or judgment on their record. "They could have taken this and walked away and saved a lot of time, money, and notoriety," says Van Norman. "But they turned it down. They wanted to clear their names."

The Court: Last Nov. 3, nearly 3 months after the shooting, a hearing on motions by the Iron Pigs' attorneys to dismiss the CCW charges was held in the Meade County Courthouse in Sturgis before Circuit Court Judge Warren Johnson. Eleven days later, the judge issued his memorandum decision. The LEOSA statute, he wrote, "is clear in its intent to preempt state laws," with only two exceptions: States can still "permit private persons or entities to prohibit or restrict the possession of concealed firearms on their property," and State laws can legally ban guns "on any State or local Gov't property, installation, building, base, or park." Beyond that, States "cannot restrict qualified law enforcement officers" from carrying concealed "in any other manner," Johnson stated. Because none of the officer defendants in this case was retired, Johnson did not address aspects of LEOSA related to retired LEOs. But for active officers to gain protection of the federal statute, he pointed out that they must "regularly qualify" with and be "authorized to carry" a firearm, be in possession of "photographic identification issued by the governmental agency which employs" them, must not be subject to any disciplinary action, nor be under the influence of drugs or alcohol. "It is beyond dispute that defendants Smith, McCoy, Rector, and Lalalde are 'qualified law enforcement officers,'" Johnson wrote. "They were qualified to carry firearms, and at the time in

question, they were not under the influence of alcohol or any other drug [and] they possessed photographic identification issued by their respective employers." Consequently, they were "exempt from prosecution under South Dakota State Law as a result of the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act." While acknowledging that caselaw concerning the Act "is limited," Johnson did cite as precedent one decision from another jurisdiction in *New York v. Booth* [862 N.Y.S.2d 767], where the court also ruled that the federal law "preempted prosecution under state laws when the defendant is a 'qualified law enforcement officer.'" *Bottom line:* Johnson ordered the indictments against the four Washington State officers dismissed. "The fact that these officers stood and fought brought a victory for law enforcement officers everywhere," says Ken Orrock, who has since left private practice and has joined the state's attorney's office in a neighboring county. LEAA's Ted Deeds says Johnson's decision was "hands down" the strongest court support of LEOSA yet. "Here the law was sustained where an actual use of force occurred," he explains. "The two previous tests I'm aware of, in Eastern jurisdictions, involved only officers carrying, not using, firearms. "Now, it should be crystal clear. In any state, if you're a qualified officer and you present your ID, LEOSA is a bar to your being arrested or prosecuted for carrying a concealed firearm." The only loss in Johnson's decision was for the firefighter, Erik Pingel. He did have a permit to carry a concealed weapon in Colorado and enjoyed reciprocal privileges in South Dakota. But not being a cop, he was subject to South Dakota law and thus was banned from going armed in a drinking establishment. The indictment against him would have to stand.

The Defendants Today: Last Dec, Pingel finally pled guilty and accepted a suspended imposition of conviction. He paid a small fine, his gun was forfeited, and he is now in his six-month "good behavior" period. Smith and McCoy have resumed full duty on Seattle P.D. and have their guns back. For two weeks after the charges were dismissed, the two Customs officers were kept on unarmed light duty, and at this writing, more than 7 weeks after Johnson's decision, they are still in nerve-racking limbo. Although the court in South Dakota cleared them of any culpability, their agency's internal investigation drags on without resolution. And there's still the matter of being judged by the court of public opinion. Some critics have suggested that the officers fostered their own problems by joining the congregation of bikers at the Sturgis rally, where a cautious person might have predicted the likelihood of trouble. "Bad judgment?" says Steve Shane. "That's bullshit! Sturgis these days is mainly attended by respectable, family people. John McCain was there with his wife! It's no different than going to a state fair—lots of entertainment, lots of vendors, lots to look at, a fun place to be. There's a whole mix of life there other than criminals. "Outlaw bikers are called 1%ers for a reason: they're only 1% of the population that rides. There are more law enforcement motorcycle clubs than outlaw clubs, and there are more LEOs at Sturgis. We don't go to places where the Hells Angels and Bandidos hang out. We aren't out to flex our muscle. We're there to have a good time. "Believe me, I've seen more illegal activity at rock concerts than I've ever seen at a bike rally. These days you stand a greater chance of getting shot going to the mall than you do going to Sturgis. "If this had been a case where some civilian was getting pounded by 3 HAs and about to lose his life and we had stepped in, we would have been heroes. People would have said, 'Thank God cops were there with guns.'" What do you think?

What doesn't kill you; usually really really hurts.

The New RFID chip technology for motorcycle events – Last Summer - *Texas* - By Denise Nobis (NCOM's Webmaster's Mother) - A new technology that promoters say will change motorcycle events forever was introduced in Texas for the Lone Star Rally in Galveston, this past Dec. In order for a bike to come onto the strand, a parking pass had to be purchased. Each numbered pass was embedded with an RFID chip. RFID (radio frequency identification) is a technology that incorporates the use of electromagnetic or electrostatic coupling in the radio frequency (RF) portion of the electromagnetic spectrum to uniquely identify an object, animal, or person. The link on the Lonestar website said this, "The Chip technology will allow us to pinpoint you and produce a DVD of the entire rally event with personalized footage of you and your bike on the Strand!" This is how it worked - there were video cameras and chip contact points at different stations in the rally. When the bikers crossed the contact points, that were also time stamped, the cameras captured them through the RFID tag and videoed them. If you wanted to order the DVD, you could go online as instructed on the tag, and enter your parking pass number. Any video taken with that tag number could then be accessed, downloaded and then embedded into a DVD of the rally. The South Texas Confederation of Clubs held its meeting during the Rally. When members were told that the parking passes which they purchased and volunteers had hung on their bikes were embedded with passive RFID chips, they proceeded to take the passes off their bikes and throw them in a bonfire. Others cut the chips from the passes but kept them in order to still park at the event. A search of websites with regard to RFID technology offered information about the capabilities to track people and their habits; Gov't agencies and law enforcement officials could use the technology to violate the Fourth Amendment. The Fed Gov't has repeatedly expressed a desire to consolidate transaction information from commercial databases into a single, centralized database under its control. Once such transaction data includes unique EPC serial numbers linked to the identity of purchasers, RFID tags could be scanned at strategic locations and used to identify people that pass by as well as surreptitiously scan their belongings. Wal-Mart and Target Stores have been implicated in the past of using RFID tags to monitor by camera the kinds of people purchasing different cosmetics. This technology is also being used for implanting in convicted felons to monitor their activity and there are plans for the very near future for everyone in the country as a 'security measure' and linking to a centralized database and financial system. To summarize the applications of RFID technology as it relates to you as a biker: it is capable of seeing what is in your saddlebags, identifying who you are associating with, eating, smoking, drinking and your whereabouts during a rally. Information downloaded from videotaping could be sold to marketing firms or passed on to law enforcement, anti-gang taskforces, etc. With all new technology, there are ethical issues that should be addressed involving the rights or infringement of rights of the public. Informing people that a surveillance chip that would be videotaping them was in their parking pass should have been protocol for the event. Without consideration of informed consent, rally promoters and the cities of venue can expect lawsuits waiting to happen. None of the people that we interviewed were aware of the chip or its capabilities in their parking pass. A query of volunteers who were putting the passes on the bikes, also confirmed our suspicions that informed consent was not a priority. The volunteers had not been instructed to tell anyone there was an RFID chip in their parking pass. Because there are plans to bring RFID technology to other bike events such as Sturgis and Daytona Bike Week, we will continue to monitor this. A word to the wise, if you don't want to be chipped, be cautious of any

parking passes or other promotional items given to you at an event. There might be an RFID chip in it. And if your motorcycle club or association provides a service to rallies around the country, such as parking or handing out materials and promotional items, for the sake of the biker community, inquire if RFID technology is being used. It is our hope that the promoters of the Lone Star Rally would not involve the rally in this invasion of privacy rights. If you would like to offer your opinion of RFID chip technology to the promoters of the Lone Star Rally, please exercise your right to do so by email : rl@lonestarrally.com and the DVD company - wgpsinc@yahoo.com If you would like the report with footnoted links that was presented to the NCOM board on the chip, you may request 1 by email & we will send it to you.

Mexican Mafia men plead guilty to murder – Feb 6, 2009 – *Texas* - By Guillermo Contreras; Express-News - They admitted to murder, but don't call them "snitches." Such is the case of Mexican Mafia gang members who have taken plea deals in a large federal racketeering case targeting the San Antonio-centered prison gang. Mark "Kick Back" Alvarado & Leonard "Joker" Tremillo told U.S. District Judge Orlando Garcia on Thursday that they admit to their own participation in enforcing the gang's brutal rules, which include killings. With fellow member Billy "Wild Bill" Silva looking on, Alvarado & Tremillo pleaded guilty to conspiracy to participate in racketeering activity, including murder, among other charges. Silva expected to follow suit, but his plea hearing was rescheduled to next week after his lawyer did not attend Thursday. Alvarado admitted shooting Mercie Brooks, a fellow member who had turned police informant, on Sept. 18, 2004. In exchange for his guilty plea, Alvarado agreed to 25 years in prison. Tremillo admitted being involved in the beating & shooting death of Jesse "Psych" Medina & to shooting Robert "Beto" Gleason. Medina was found near Applewhite Road in south Bexar County on Feb. 18, 2004. Gleason's body was found in the 4600 block of Cassin Road on March 15, 2004. Tremillo agreed to do 27 years. While admitting to the murders, Alvarado & Tremillo consulted with their lawyers after seeing language in their plea documents that implicated other gang members. "Mr. Alvarado is only admitting to his own personal culpability, not anyone else's," Alvarado's lawyer, Anthony Martin Smith, told Garcia. "He refuses to be a snitch or cooperate in any way." Tremillo's lawyer, John J. Ritenour Jr., told the judge, "We agree." The trepidation of Alvarado & Tremillo showed the power the gang has. The gang, also known as Mexikanemi, punishes cooperators with death. Silva reached a plea deal last week in which he admits participating in the killings of fellow member Jose "Arte" Moreno & Henry "Guero" Cantu, a member of the Bandidos motorcycle gang. Silva agreed to a sentence of 25 years. Moreno's headless body was unearthed Oct. 15, 2003, in far south Bexar County. He was suspected of cooperating with law officers. Cantu was shot outside a bar after he was confronted because he refused to pay an extortion tax to the Mexican Mafia. Another member, Hector Martinez, has reached a plea deal in which he admits to conspiring with other members to kill Robert "Robe" Murillo on Aug. 2, 2004. Murillo was killed because he did not intervene when a high-ranking member of the gang, Daniel "Gumby" Leza, was attacked & slashed across the neck at a wedding. Martinez agreed to a sentence of 23 years.

Expecting a carjacker, a rapist or a drug pusher to care that his possession or use of a gun is unlawful is like expecting a terrorist to care that his car bomb is taking up 2 car [parking] spaces."
- Joseph T. Chew

Hells Angels pleaded guilty to a federal gun charge – Feb 5, 2009 – *South Dakota* – by Josh Verges - A member of the Hells Angels pleaded guilty to a Fed gun charge this morning in Rapid City, according to the U.S. Atty's office. Chad Wilson, a 33-year-old Canadian living on a tourist visa in San Diego, is scheduled to be sentenced April 21 for being a nonimmigrant alien in possession of a firearm. He was indicted on the gun charge after a Minnehaha County jury acquitted him last year of attempted murder against 5 people associated with the Outlaws MC. He claimed self-defense in the 2006 shootout. John Midmore, 35, of Valparaiso, Ind. was a co-defendant in the state case. He was also acquitted of attempted murder but pleaded guilty Wed to cocaine possession; that conviction likely will be sealed in 3 months.

Prison Run set for Sunday – Feb 5, 2009 - *Arizona* - Harley riders of all stripes will come from hundreds of miles around Sunday to the 26th annual Florence Prison Run. Prior to bikers by the hundreds riding past the local Arizona State Prison units around 2 p.m., the event will meet at the Charles Whitlow Rodeo Grounds for the 1st time. In recent years riders have gathered at Yolanda's Chuckwagon, but they had to find a new host after the Chuckwagon was sold then bulldozed. Based on past events & the current weather report, organizers are expecting roughly 1,200 bikes & 2,000 people in attendance. Sponsored by the Hells Angels, the prison run is open to ages 21 & older & will feature live rock'n roll, according to the club's publicity. Admission is \$20 & the first 1,500 riders will receive run pins.

Stanley the rattlesnake was a Hells Angel – Feb 5, 2009 – *California* – By Gary Bogue - Always carry a flagon of whiskey in case of snakebite & furthermore always carry a small snake. - W.C. Fields... There are a lot of exotic "pets" in this country & they always seem to be escaping from their cages. You may have seen a story this week about the "23-foot, 130-pound reticulated python that slithered out of its owner's home in San Luis Obispo late Sunday & wasn't found until Monday afternoon, stretched out in the sun in a neighbor's yard." Boy, did that bring back some fond memories of the good old days back in the 1970s when I was curator of the Lindsay Wildlife Museum in Walnut Creek. Ah, yes, reptiles I have known & loved. They are legion. OK, so maybe I didn't love them all. I never came across any 23-footers, but I did discover a 14-foot Burmese python in a local backyard. A lady called the museum to say there was "something in my flower bed." The museum staff didn't usually go out on calls, but it was just down the block so I trotted over to see what was in her flower bed. She stood in her kitchen doorway as I walked across her backyard & bent down & looked around in her flowers. "Can you see anything?" she called. "Just this," I said, standing up & turning around to show her the 14-foot python draped around my shoulders. Her screams followed her all the way through her house & out the front door. One day a game warden stopped by & asked if the museum could baby-sit "a few illegal reptiles" he had confiscated. I said sure & went out to help him get "a few illegal reptiles" from his patrol car. After he left, I stood staring down at the boxes & wondering where I was going to put 34 Gila monsters. I was definitely going to have to start asking those wardens to be more specific. At one of the museum's weekly planning meetings, we decided to offer a class for people who were terrified of snakes. I would teach the class, using several of our smallest & friendliest snakes. The whole idea of the class was to show that most snakes were actually shy, gentle creatures & not the terrifying monsters some people think they are. I wanted to help people lose their fear of snakes. We publicized the program & 30 people paid \$25 each to attend. Wow! I was really excited -

until the night of the class arrived & not a single person showed up. They were all too scared to come. A S. F. Chronicle photographer was there & the next day there was a picture on the front page of the Chron of me holding up a small boa constrictor in front of a room full of empty chairs. The scariest snake I ever met was a 4-foot African Cape cobra (another escaped pet) I caught in a Danville garden shed. But once I locked the deadly poisonous reptile in a metal box & took it to a safe facility, it wasn't scary anymore. One of my favorite snakes in the whole world was a rattlesnake named Stanley. Stanley was a Hells Angel. A local chapter of the legendary motorcycle club kept Stanley in a gallon jar & when someone joined the club, as part of the initiation they had to reach into the jar & scratch Stanley on the nose. If he didn't bite them, they were in. That was all well & good until one day Stanley chomped on the club president's finger as he was demonstrating the process to a potential new club member. The next morning, Stanley got a motorcycle escort to Walnut Creek & he was donated to the museum. We kept him in a terrarium in the museum's Reptile Room, with his Hells Angels club insignia patch hanging beside him on the wall. Stanley was a actually a pretty nice guy for a Hells Angel.

Major smuggling ring busted – Feb 5, 2009 – *Finland* - A gang of about 30 drug dealers has been apprehended by Estonian & Finnish police. The gang reportedly smuggled hundreds of kilograms of drugs over the course of a year. The Finnish police have established the smuggling of 270 kilograms of hashish, 106 kilograms of amphetamine, 6,000 Subutex pills & 400 grams of cocaine to Finland & the turnover of the drug business amounted to nearly 95.5 billion kroons (6.1 million euros). According to investigation information the drug consignments were hidden into trucks & private cars with dozens of traffickers involved in the smuggling. Finnish & Estonian authorities closely cooperated in the exposure of the gang & a joint Estonian-Finnish group had been set up for its investigation. So, establishment of the criminal proceeds of the persons connected with the drug business & its arrest was the duty of Estonian authorities. According to Finnish media the string of the drug business reached Spain, from where one of suspect of the drug business was handed over to Finland. According to the Finnish police the case is also connected with the amphetamine case of the Bandidos motorbike gang, in which the Finnish hockey star Jere Karalahti was involved.

Third arrest over alleged blackmail bid – Feb 5, 2009 - *Australia* - By Doug Robertson - Police have arrested the third man wanted over an alleged blackmail attempt made against two brothers at Prospect last year. A Salisbury man, 32, suspected to be a Finks bikie associate, was arrested on Tuesday at a Golden Grove house & charged over five alleged serious criminal trespass incidents & associated thefts in the southern suburbs the same day. Police said a search of a house uncovered a stolen Holden Statesman sedan & two firearms. Crime Gangs Task Force later charged the man with the alleged \$100,000 blackmail attempt & several firearm offences. He remains in custody & will appear in Holden Hill Magistrates Court on March 12. Finks member Travis Lemm, 28, of Trott Park, & Frank Borg, 51, of Semaphore Park, appeared in court on January 6 charged with blackmail. Adelaide Magistrates Court heard the victims of the alleged blackmail attempt were in danger of assault while the third man remained at large.

How can 2 million Blacks get into Washington, DC in sub zero temps in 1 day when 200,000 couldn't get out of New Orleans at 85 degrees with 4 days notice.

Bikie rage, greed & speed – Feb 5, 2009 - *Australia* - By Paul Kent - Drugs & the fortunes they generate have Sydney's bikie war set to go national. I am told this yesterday over a coffee in Sydney at a table big enough to support a meth lab on. It is hardly big enough to play cards on. Yet on tables as small as this, cheap chemicals are being manufactured into expensive drugs & great fortunes are made for everybody involved. The meth labs make the drugs supplied by the bikies, who have created the violence sending fear through this city - explosions & random drive-by shootings into houses where kids toys lie in the front yard. All hell breaks loose among bikies. It sparks fears of another Milperra Massacre, the great fear being that this random killing spree could be coming to a town near you. And it cannot be stopped because nobody knows what is happening. The police aren't sure, & they aren't even sure the bikies are sure. While the Hells Angels have promised retribution following Wed's bombing of their clubhouse in Crystal St, Petersham, it is not even clear the gang members know who was behind it. Creating this confusion, police suspect, are gangs attacking rivals in underhanded attacks - not as a declaration of war - but to provoke battles between other gangs. The only suitable explanation involves the emergence of a new gang on Sydney's streets. The gang - Notorious - contains some of the most violent criminals in Sydney. They are breaking all established rules to punch out their own turf. Now, with the job having started, they are preparing to expand across Australia. It will undoubtedly stir interstate gangs to pick up their weapons. Notorious represents the changing face of the modern bikie gang. For starters, few of them ride bikes. Also gone from many are the beer guts & bushranger beards. Most of all, gone is the rebellious lifestyle that created the outlaw motorcycle gang culture after returned American soldiers struggled to reintegrate with society following the end of World War II. Today's bikie is familiar with a barbell. He is clean cut & highly tattooed, but, most of all, he is about drugs & money. They are almost all criminals. As well as the amphetamine trade, which is the bulk of their business, they have expanded into other illegal avenues for profit. Cars are stolen & chopped - sold for parts or shipped overseas. Extortion has become popular, with victims kidnapped & sold back for a ransom. Standover scams are another earner - shopkeepers forced to pay protection money. But the biggest change in today's bikie gang is the turn to multiculturalism. This is no small step. It began 10 to 12 years ago as the gangs moved deeper into crime & their emphasis shifted away from sharing the outlaw lifestyle to selling drugs. Gone was the racist doctrine. Soon, the dominant criteria became earning potential. If he earned, he was in. If not, no good. It changed the whole gang culture. Soon enough, old-style established gang members started walking away from their colours. They didn't want to share their clubhouse with Islanders or Lebanese. And as they disappeared, the old rules began to fade. Where the gang lifestyle had previously been kept within gangland, now everybody became fair game. Bullets began being sent into homes where children slept. Bombs were detonated where anybody could be walking past. This also sent many old-school bikies into retirement. Nowadays the old bikie gangs remain in structure only. There is a national president & each chapter has its own chapter president. Under the chapter president is the sergeant at arms, responsible for discipline. Below him is the road captain, responsible for leading the runs. Bikies can wear their colours only when they are on club business, & never anywhere else. These are the rules Notorious are living by & upsetting at the same time. After Wed's bombing police could hardly wait to take a look inside the Hells Angels clubhouse. Yet for a long time they were unable to, forced to wait because they did not have a warrant. Meanwhile, the Hells Angels turned up but also could

not get in to hide whatever it was they did not want the police to see. While they had every right to enter their clubhouse, they had no right to enter the police crime scene, inside of which sat there clubhouse. It was the modern Mexican stand-off, coming soon to a town near you.

Police look to Al Capone for help against gangs – Feb 6, 2009 - *Denmark* - Busting gang members for financial crimes is proving the police's secret weapon in a tough battle. A wave of gang-related shootings over the past year has law enforcement, social welfare & tax officials ready to dig into members' financial records to see whether they can use financial crimes as a way to get the organisations' kingpins off the street. Nicknamed the Al Capone-method after the US gangster of the same name who was jailed on tax evasion charges in the 1930s, the strategy will open the books on 950 members of motorcycle & immigrant gangs to determine if suspected criminals are living a life of luxury while collecting public assistance. 'If you see someone driving around in a car that isn't his own, we're going to find out who owns it & then ask how he can afford it & why someone else was driving it,' said Henning Schmidt, head of the Copenhagen Police financial crimes unit. This is the third time law enforcement officials have sought to combat gang violence indirectly by sniping at members for financial crimes. The first probe, in 2002, wound up netting 30 million kroner in unpaid taxes. A 2005 investigation involving 561 members brought in another reported 30 million kroner. Chief Inspector Jørgen Isalin of the National Centre for Investigation said difficulties prosecuting gang members for violent crimes or on drugs charges meant an indirect approach was necessary. 'What we are looking to do is make it hard to be a criminal by constantly chasing after the things they buy with their dirty money,' he said. As part of the preparations for the investigations, police say they have developed a consumption profile of the leading members of immigrant gangs. During a meeting later this month, they will meet with tax & social welfare officials to determine their next step. 'This is going to take a long time,' said Ole Madsen, of the Eastern Jutland Police, 'but whatever we can do to fight them will help.'

Biker found not guilty – Feb 6, 2009 - *Denmark* - Hells Angel Jørn Jønke Nielsen said he felt like he was the victim of a character assassination following the drawn out process leading to his trial. Hells Angel Nielsen has been acquitted on the charge of grievous bodily harm, stemming from a fight in Dec 2007 in which he stabbed another man. The Copenhagen City Court found both Nielsen & his friend Esben Hertz not guilty & agreed that their stabbing of the man in Nørrebro had been in self defence. During the altercation, Nielsen received serious stab wounds to the stomach & groin. The 22-year-old immigrant man responsible for the wounding of Nielsen & his comrade was found guilty of serious assault & could now face up to 10 years imprisonment. The case attracted a lot of attention as Nielsen was remanded to custody for 10 months & refused to submit to a psychological evaluation. The prosecution argued that he could not be released as he was a danger to society. He eventually secured his release last Oct. 'This is a victory for me & the rest of the Hells Angels, but I felt like I was persecuted by the public prosecutor & that I was the victim of character assassination,' Nielsen said to BT newspaper after walking free from the Court.

The Senility Prayer: Grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway, the good fortune to run into the ones I do, & the eyesight to tell the difference.

It takes a long time to grow old friends...

This Disabled Vet --- By Richard 'Bingo' Cosby
D.C. Eagles M.C. and Wisconsin Confederation Of Clubs

He went into the service and he served over seas.
He was wounded and lost his legs - just above the knees!
He Used to be a biker! But he isn't anymore!
So that got me thinking --- "What's a 'Brother' For?
So I'm asking people to pitch in - money - or a part -
To build that vet a trike - to show they have a heart!
So if you have a few bucks - or some parts that we can use -
It sure would be appreciated! What have you got to lose?

If you'd like to donate: Richard 'Bingo' Cosby (920) 793.5747
2206 Jefferson St. Two Rivers, WI. 54241

Rebels guilty plea on drugs, guns charges – Feb 6, 2009 –
Australia - A senior member of the Rebels MC has pleaded guilty to drugs, firearms & money offences in Adelaide Magistrates Court. Guy Anthony Clift, 35, of Flagstaff Hill admitted having about \$270,000 which had been obtained illegally at Christies Beach last March. He also admitted trafficking ecstasy at Seaton last year & having a handgun without a licence. Prosecutors dropped similar charges against Clift's mother & the court heard a gun charge against another co-accused, Ian Richard Cole, would be downgraded to a summary offence. Clift will face the District Court in March.

Public assistance sought for info – Feb 6, 2009 – *Australia* - Police are appealing for public assistance after a 4-wheel drive which is believed to have been involved in an explosion at Petersham earlier this week, was found in Haberfield last night. About 10:20pm, police from Marrickville Local Area Command were called to Martin Street near Dobroyd Parade following reports of a vehicle on fire. Police & Fire Brigade officers attended the scene & found a blue 2003 Mitsubishi Pajero with registration YNJ-958 alight. The fire was extinguished & a crime scene was established. The 4-wheel drive was seized for forensic examination. State Crime Command's Gangs Squad officers believe that the car was involved in an explosion outside the Hells Angels clubhouse on Crystal Street, Petersham earlier this week.

Man arrested – Feb 7, 2009 - A *Wyoming* man with a criminal record in at least nine states who allegedly skipped out on a Wyoming court appearance this week was arrested Tuesday in Dawson County on suspicion of driving under the influence. Undersheriff Rich Rowe said the sheriff's office on Tuesday received reports of a possible drunken driver on Highway 16, between Glendive & Sidney. A deputy pulled the vehicle over & arrested its driver, Thomas A. Jaques, 49, on suspicion of driving under the influence, Rowe said. Jaques was on his way from Wyoming to Williston, N.D., Rowe said. Deputies then learned he was scheduled to be sentenced in Natrona County, Wyo., that same day for being a felon in possession of a firearm. On Wed, the Dawson County Sheriff's Office received a warrant from Natrona County for the arrest of Jaques. Rowe said Jaques may be associated with an outlaw motorcycle gang, has a long criminal history & "served federal time for building explosives." Dating back to the late 1980s, he has a criminal history in California, New York, Wyoming, Montana, Utah, Arizona, Colorado & Illinois, Rowe said, adding that his past crimes include being a felon in possession of a firearm, probation violations, drug charges, fleeing & forcing his wife into prostitution. Jaques is being held by the Dawson County Sheriff's Office on suspicion of DUI & will appear in court later this week. He will be sent to face the charges in Wyoming after.

Bikies suspected in Sydney shooting – Feb 8, 2009 - *Australia* - A man shot in the leg in broad daylight at a popular motorcycle event in Sydney's west is believed to have been involved in an altercation with members of a bikie gang. Police have been told five men wearing outlaw motorcycle gang colours approached the 33-year-old man on Clyde Street, Silverwater, at about 2.50pm on Saturday. He was shot in the leg before the men ran from the scene & crossed a park towards Silverwater Bridge. The victim was taken to Liverpool Hospital where he was reported to be in a serious condition. The incident happened as hundreds of people gathered at an event nearby run by a Christian MC. The organiser of The Silverwater Street & Custom Motorcycle Show, Greg Hirst, told AAP few people at the event were aware of what had happened. "We were running the show at the time. "There was an incident here over in the bushes behind the show. "I got called over. There were paramedics in attendance & an ambulance." Hirst said the motorcycle show did not normally attract trouble. "We've never had an incident in 15 years," he said. "It's a family show." Saturday's shooting follows an explosion outside the Hells Angels clubhouse on Crystal Street in the inner west suburb of Petersham early on Wed morning.

Nearly 20 officers respond to concerns of potential brawl – Feb 9, 2009 – *Knoxville, Tennessee* - Outlaws MC & Iron Order MC has a confrontation at the Easy Rider Show this weekend. Police were called & both sides were ask to leave. This has been building & Building between the 2 clubs. The Easyriders Bike Show Tour has attracted both bikers & police to the Knoxville Convention Center. Officers say somebody called 911 Sat afternoon saying two bikers from rival clubs got into a heated conversation at the bike show. Apparently, the caller worried it could boil over into a fight, however, officers say if didn't. Both bikers involved agreed to leave the show to alleviate concerns & both were given refunds. Officers say the large crowds in such a small, confined space called for a larger response.

Comancheros bikies arrested over assault – Feb 9, 2009 - *Australia* -By Vikki Champion - Three members of a bikie gang, suspected of starting a gang war, have been arrested for the alleged assault of one of their own. Three Comancheros members have been charged for allegedly assaulting a former member at Lithgow on Sat, Feb 7. The incident follows a flare-up of bikie activity that has police fearing a gang war in NSW. Last week a Sydney Hells Angels base was bombed & a gang of Rebels arrested by armed officers (see picture, right). Police will allege the men went to the 40-year-old's home & assaulted him about 8pm. He was taken to Lithgow Hospital with head wounds. Gangs Squad detectives assisted Chifley Local Area Command investigate the assault & the men, aged 43, 50, & 54, were arrested later that day at various locations. The 43-year-old man was charged with assault occasioning actual bodily harm, & remain on enclosed lands without consent. The 50 & 54-year-olds have each been charged with remain on enclosed lands without consent. All 3 men have been granted conditional bail, & will appear at Lithgow Local Court on 5 March, 2009. Police feared a bikie gang war could erupt in inner Sydney after a Hells Angels' clubhouse was blown up & a nearby tattoo shop was shot up last Wed. The Comancheros was one gang identified as feuding with the Hells Angels' last year. The Sydney-based gang is believed to have been involved in a war with the Nomads over the past several years involving firebombings & drive-by shootings, & last year was involved in tit-for-tat violence with the Hells Angels in the Brighton-Le-Sands area.

Biker Gangs Trilogy --- Biker Gangs: 101 – February 2009 – *Chicago, Illinois* – Part 1: The Way We Were: The Good Ole Boys”, by Ron Holmes, ATF (Rtd.), Board Member, Internat’l Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Investigators Association. 3 hours...

Restricted Session: Open only to Criminal Justice Personnel.

Note: Wed afternoon time slot only, Aug 12th, 2009.

Session credits: Motorcycle Gangs; Gang Crime Investigation Skills; Gang Profile Analysis; Gang Interview/Interrogation Skills; Gangs & Drugs; Gang Prosecution; Gang Prevention Skills; Officer Safety Skills in Dealing With Gangs; Hate Groups/White Racist Extremist Gangs; Advanced Gang Identification; Gang Internet Investigation; Gangs & the Mass Media; Gangs & Organized Crime.

Abstract: This fast-paced, high powered advanced section of instruction will bring about a better understanding of the evolution of outlaw motorcycle gangs, known as 1%er’s, from their early days as non-conformist rebels to their present day status as non-traditional organized crime groups. An important goal of this training is to dispel the myth that these sophisticated crime groups are the individuals depicted in the media, the entertainment industry, & in some cases, the minds of law enforcement agencies as “good ole boys riding their hogs”. The sessions are divided into three, distinct periods of evolution & degree of complexity. The first, entitled “Biker Gangs 101 – The Way We Were – The Good Ole Boys”, is a two & a half hour session aimed at the novice wishing to learn & understand the who & what of the early days of biker clubs, the beginnings of the 1% gangs, the 1%er terminology, the philosophy, symbols, etc. Attendees will be able to gain a comprehensive understanding of the formation of outlaw motorcycle gangs, as opposed to motorcycle clubs, throughout the world & their evolution from gangs to Non-Traditional Organized Crime; recognize the movement, begun in earnest in the 1990’s, of the outlaw motorcycle gangs into federations & coalitions and, in some cases, advised by attorneys, some of whom are members themselves; gain an understanding of the significance that the N.C.O.M./A.I.M. has played in bringing the “clubs together”; observe the interaction between 1%er gangs & some, so-called law enforcement clubs, dispel the myths & be aware of the entry of OMG’s into the legal world & their increasing use of the system; and, in investigating the 1%er’s in the future, where are they headed next? This course includes the following types of continuously changing information: (a) the so-called truce between the 1%er’s enacted in the late nineties and, just as projected by law enforcement, its demise in 2001 and, its current status, (b) the session will include video material on an OMG-related homicide whereby different gangs cooperated together against a so-called common enemy before the truce fell apart, (c) the session will include video & updated information on the shootout/homicide between motorcycle gangs at the Hell-Raisers Ball in New York in 2002, (d) the session will include video & updated information on the shoot-out/homicides between motorcycle gangs at the Harrah’s Casino, Laughlin, NV, in 2002, (e) the session will graphically depict the incredible growth of the major 1%er gangs & their “puppet” gangs in the last fifteen years throughout the world; (f) the session will include the on-going & latest examples of violence between the gangs & against law enforcement; (g) the session will provide the much acclaimed, & useful motorcycle gang Violence Time Line for 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 & up to date for 2007, and, finally, (h) a projected trends analysis of what we might expect in the future.

Bio: Ron Holmes retired from the ATF in 2000, with thirty years of law enforcement experience, & over twenty years investigating outlaw motorcycle gangs, making him a sought after training & consultant on OMG’s. He is a member of the Board of Directors, International Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Investigators Association,

a member of the Midwest Cycle Intelligence Organization, having served as the first V.P. of the M.C.I.O.; he has provided training on OMG’s for NEMRT (IL), NILETA (IN), various state police academies & has instructed in over 15 states as well as Canada. He is a graduate of Indiana State Univ & served four years with the United States Marine Corps.

The second, entitled “Evolution: The Way We Are — The Criminal Emerges” is a two & a half hour, brutally revealing session as to the realities of the outlaw motorcycle gangs & their violence against each other, the public & law enforcement.

Restricted Session: Open only to Criminal Justice Personnel.

Note: Wed afternoon time slot only, Aug 13th, 2009.

The third & final session is entitled “The Way We’re Gonna Be: Non-Traditional Organized Crime”, & is an advanced 3 hour presentation on the degree of organization that the 1%er’s have mastered, their involvement in everyday organizations, politics, legitimate business ventures, public relations & the expected trends for the future.

Restricted Session: Open only to Criminal Justice Personnel.

Note: Wed afternoon time slot only, Aug 13th, 2009.

Easy Rider’ 40? Wow, man! – Feb 9, 2009 – USA - By Lewis Beale - Cultural trendsetter, or dated, hippie-dippy artifact? “Easy Rider” will be 40 years old this summer, & viewers can determine for themselves whether this Dennis Hopper-directed flick is still shocking & raw, or a reminder of how crazy, sick & self-absorbed the ‘60s could be. A road movie about two hippie drug dealers, Wyatt (Peter Fonda) & Billy (Hopper), who decide to ride across America on their Harleys, the film was produced on the cheap & grossed an astonishing \$19 million (more than \$90 million in contemporary currency). It provided Jack Nicholson with a role that turned him into a star, & it pointed the way to the new, more independent filmmaking of the 1970s. Seen today, “Easy Rider” seems filled with the excesses of youth & is a perfect reflection of the sex, drugs & rock & roll spirit of the age. Whether it’s actually any good, however, probably depends on your political convictions & the number of joints you smoked back in the day. Here are 10 things you need to know about “Easy Rider”:

1. The scene in which Fonda, Hopper & Nicholson smoke dope? That was real marijuana they were inhaling.
2. The movie’s original title was “The Loners.”
3. The cocaine dealer in the beginning of the movie is played by record mogul Phil Spector.
4. Hopper originally proposed a 220-minute cut of the movie. Another editor was brought in who reduced it to a more watchable 95.
5. Four police cycles -- 1949, 1950 & 1952 Harleys -- were used.
6. The hippie commune was re-created in Santa Monica, Calif., because the New Mexico commune it was patterned on did not permit filming.
7. Nicholson’s role was originally slated for Rip Torn. But Torn, a Texan, withdrew after he & Hopper almost came to blows over the director’s comments about Southern rednecks.
8. Toni Basil, who would go on to greater fame as a choreographer & singer (“Mickey”), had a small role as a prostitute.
9. The movie was nominated for two Oscars, including best screenplay & best supporting actor for Nicholson.
10. In 1998, the movie was added to the National Film Registry, an honor given to films deemed “culturally, historically or aesthetically significant.”

Everyone Just Relax! When was the last time you saw a black guy keep a job for 4 years??

H-D seeks federal bailout – Feb 9, 2009 – USA - H-D is awaiting news in regards to whether the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation will designate the company as eligible for federal funding under a bank bailout program. Sen. Bob Casey, D-Pa., wrote a letter Jan 16 to Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. chairman Sheila Blair, saying Harley-Davidson recently inquired whether its financing company & subsidiaries, Harley-Davidson Credit Corp. & Eaglemark Savings Bank, are eligible for the Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program, or TLGP. Casey said he supports Harley's request for eligibility & wants the FDIC to make a decision on the company's eligibility, ideally ahead of the company's fourth-quarter earnings report due out Friday. "Without access to TLGP, H-D may be forced to make tough decisions that will impact workers in Pennsylvania, jeopardize the local economy, & negatively impact the state economy," Casey wrote in the letter. The TLGP guarantees unsecured corporate debt against default, which would cover the bills of Harley-Davidson's internal financial entities if they were unable to pay bills themselves. H-D employs nearly 3,000 people at its plant in York County, PA., & another 1,500 work at dealerships in the state. Against an industry wide slowdown, analysts expect Harley sales to be down 20% for the fourth quarter, & Raymond James analyst Joseph D. Hovorka said in a client note that sales among 55 dealers surveyed were "the softest reading ever for our survey." Sales are expected to slide another 20% to 30% this year as consumers cut purchases of luxury goods. Four analysts — Goldman Sachs, Standard & Poor's, RBC & Raymond James — have downgraded Harley shares in as many weeks, & the company's former HDFS president, Sy Naqvi, left the company early this month. H-D's stock price has dropped from \$80-plus per share in Dec 2006 to \$13.70 this week.

Japanese biker gangs getting smaller – Feb 9, 2009 – Japan - Japanese biker gangs getting older. Japan's biker gangs got both older & smaller in 2008, according to the National Police Agency. The police agency said that total membership in the country's biker gangs, or bosozoku, stood at 11,516, an 8.5% drop from the previous year & the lowest number recorded since 1975, the earliest year for which statistics are available. Some 70% of gangs had less than 10 members, & legal adults made up over half of membership, continuing a trend over the past several years. According to the police agency, biker gang membership peaked at 42,510 in 1982, & has been falling ever since. The total number of groups stood at 651 in 2008, a 15.1% drop from the year before. Of those, 472 gangs had less than 10 members & no group had 50 or more. Also, 51% of the total membership was made up of adults. Adult membership surpassed the 50% mark for the first time in 2006. Arrests of gang members for traffic law violations reached 307 in 2008, a 6.6% rise from the previous year. However, this increase is not just due to more charges of ignoring traffic signals & weaving along roads, but can be seen as the influence of November 2004 traffic law reforms which criminalized reckless driving in groups. "The erosion of the biker gangs is continuing, but we are starting to notice guerilla-like smaller groups," the police agency cautioned.

A guy took his blonde girlfriend to her first football game. They had great seats right behind their team's bench. After the game, he asked her how she liked the experience. "Oh, I really liked it," she replied, "especially the tight pants & all the big muscles, but I just couldn't understand why they were killing each other over 25 cents." Dumbfounded, her date asked, "What do you mean?" "Well, they flipped a coin, one team got it & then for the rest of the game, all they kept screaming was: 'Get the quarterback! Get the quarterback!' I'm like... Helloooooo? It's only 25 cents!!"

Myrtle Beach weighs tougher no-thong ordinance – Feb 9, 2009 – South Carolina - The Myrtle Beach city council will vote Tuesday on whether to strengthen its 16-year-old Thong Ordinance to do away with its warning-first provision. Under the proposal, police officers would have a choice of issuing a warning, handing out a ticket or even making an arrest on the first offense of indecent exposure. City spokesman Mark Kruea tells the newspaper that bare backs, semi-bare breasts & other borderline public nudity are fairly common during the area's May motorcycle rallies, but says the proposed tougher rules are not aimed specifically at the events. "We certainly have some issues with unclothedness during the rallies," he says. "But it crops up from time to time on the beach in the summertime, too."

Get Educated Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs – Feb 9, 2009 – USA - Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs-related criminal activity poses a threat to public safety in local communities in which these gangs operate because of their wide-ranging criminal activity, propensity to use violence, & ability to counter law enforcement efforts. OMGs are highly structured criminal organizations whose members engage in criminal activities such as violent crime, weapons trafficking, & drug trafficking. OMGs maintain a strong centralized leadership that implements rules regulating membership, conduct, & criminal activity. As of June 2008 state & local law enforcement agencies estimate that between 280 & 520 OMGs are operating at the national, regional, & local levels. OMGs range in size from a single chapter to hundreds of chapters worldwide. Current law enforcement intelligence estimates indicate that more than 20,000 validated OMG members, divided among hundreds of OMGs, reside in the United States.

* **National-level OMG criminal activity** poses a serious national domestic threat. National-level OMGs are a considerable concern to law enforcement because they are highly structured organizations with memberships ranging into the thousands, maintaining strong associations with transnational DTOs & other criminal organizations. In addition, national-level OMGs maintain criminal networks of regional & local motorcycle clubs, commonly referred to as "support," "puppet," or "duck" clubs, whose members conduct criminal activities in support of the larger OMGs, & who are a source for new members.⁴ Some members of support clubs have acquired employment with private businesses or Gov't agencies, which enables them to provide national-level OMGs with business, Gov't, & financial information that can be used to protect their criminal enterprises, according to open source & published law enforcement information.

* **Regional-level OMGs** are highly structured organizations that range in size from 50 to several hundred members. In the United States 109 regional-level OMGs have been identified by gang investigators; most support one of the national-level OMGs. Several regional-level OMGs maintain independent associations with transnational DTOs & other criminal organizations.

* **Local-level OMGs** typically operate in a single state or in a few neighboring states & have fewer than 50 members. They are often support clubs for regional- & Nat'l-level OMGs. Local-level OMGs usually have no ties to DTOs or to other criminal organizations.

Sons of Silence MC is one of the largest OMGs in the United States, with 250 to 275 members among 30 chapters in 12 states. The club also has 5 chapters in Germany. SOSMC members have been implicated in numerous criminal activities, including murder, assault, drug trafficking, intimidation, extortion, prostitution operations, money laundering, weapons trafficking, & motorcycle & motorcycle parts theft.

Engraved Invitation - To Steal – 21st Century – USA - By L. Neil Smith; For Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership - My high school German teacher was from a family that moved to the United States prior to the First World War & settled in New York. When war came, someone threw a brick through their store window, but they survived that; & the Second World War when it came along, as well. One summer (in the 1960s) she took her husband & two daughters to Europe, partly to visit relatives she'd never met, but with whom her own family had kept in touch over the years. I suppose she already knew that most of them lived in a town only a handful of miles away from one of the famous Nazi death-camps. She was appalled when her relatives all claimed that, even at the height of the camp's activity, none of them suspected what was going on there, even as the ashes from the ovens settled on their rooftops & windowsills. One relative had a shop where he manufactured metal hooks of the kind they hang sides of beef from in a slaughterhouse, or the carcasses of pigs, but even he claimed ignorance -- although the Nazis had ordered hundreds of these hooks for delivery to the camp, & they were the wrong size for sides of beef or the carcasses of pigs. That was back in the days when we thought "It Can't Happen Here". A civilization never arrives at a place like this without plenty of baby steps taken toward it. Not only wasn't Rome built in a day, it didn't collapse in a day, either. Neither did the British Empire nor the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. And the roots of the War Between the States stretch down & deep to well before the American Revolution. America has taken plenty of those baby steps, especially recently. Perhaps the most disgusting footprint to be seen in the last few years appeared on an official Gov't website offering "federal business opportunities" to vendors. It immediately made me think of that German hook-maker. The federal agency in question was the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, & Tobacco -- that fine, upstanding example of Gov't "help" that we all remember so well from their part in the massacre of dozens of innocent men, women, & children at Mount Carmel near Waco, not to mention their racist company picnic, the Good Ol' Boy Roundup, or the fact that their principal stock in trade is enforcing a 40 year old unconstitutional law cribbed directly from the above-mentioned Nazis.

These are the same worthies who are instructed by their bosses to lie in court if that's what it takes to get a conviction, who employ "testing procedures" -- with no written or objectively established protocols -- to incriminate innocent gun owners, & who think nothing of destroying the businesses of gun dealers based on questionable evidence. What these latterday goose-steppers wanted, from the lowest bidder willing to supply them, was 2000 Leatherman Micra combination tools. I happen to like Leatherman tools a lot. It's fairly likely you do, too. I carry two of them myself, the original model (with needle-nose pliers) & the little Micra model (with scissors). I use them both every day. My family all have them & we've given a great many as gifts. Some folks think they're a bit pricey, & prefer cheaper, often foreign imitators, but as a machinist, I greatly prefer the real thing. That's one of the reasons that I found this website thoroughly annoying, even though the actual transaction appears to have occurred several months ago, in Nov of 2007. ATF wanted their Micras blue (mine are stainless); they wanted them especially engraved, to wit: **ATF-Asset Forfeiture & Always Think Forfeiture!**

Now what, I pretend to hear you asking, is "asset forfeiture", & why is any of this worth writing an essay? My lawyers friends tell me that it's a process which has been around throughout all of American history, one of those peculiar, all-too-convenient leftovers from medieval Europe that, like sovereign immunity, we

should have pitched in the garbage when the Constitution got itself written (I sort of thought we had with the Fourth & Fifth Amendments). Basically, the Gov't has the legal power to steal anything from you it wants to steal, for any reason it wants to, or even no reason at all, & it never has to give any of it back, even if you are proven innocent of whatever they accused you of, & sometimes even if a judge orders them to cough your property up. After all, doesn't the President himself say the Constitution's "just a piece of paper"? This extremely ancient form of corruption, probably already old when Sumerian cops were filching apples from the marketplace, got an enormous boost back in the 1980s, when the federales were having a difficult time prosecuting individuals for various things that would never have been crimes in the first place, in a truly decent, free society. The problem, the feds reasoned in their dimwitted way, was lawyers -- in that their victims usually had them. Maybe if they took away their victims' money (and anything else that wasn't nailed own) before they prosecuted them, they couldn't afford lawyers & would be easier to prosecute. It would be so much easier than going to all that fuss & bother of having to trump up charges, fake evidence, play footsies with the media, intimidate witnesses, stack juries, & find malleable judges. Best of all, the stolen goods go to the agency that steals them. The local highway cops have a racy firebird they stole this way from somebody a few years ago & then disfigured with a police paint job featuring the acronym D.A.R.E.. Like any thieves, they love showing it off. I've been told they take it around to all the schools to teach kids that theft is perfectly okay if you fill out the right paperwork. Every time I see it out on the street I have to resist the impulse to vomit.

If you haven't figured it out by now, what those engraved Micras represent is a "sales tool", of the kind some corporations hand out to their field personnel. You've seen the stuff yourself, cheap ballpoint pens, rulers, staple removers, all with jaunty little slogans printed on them to keep that sales force perky & productive. Sometimes they're gifts for customers -- drug outfits give all kinds of junk to physicians -- sometimes they're a reminder to the sales people themselves. Except that the Gov't doesn't have to settle merely for cheap ballpoint pens, because they're doing it all with your money & mine. And what they're reminding their "sales force" to do is to steal all that they possibly can, as a first, highest priority that supersedes investigations, arrests, or any of that other irritating "due process" junk. It's like Attila the Hun handing out decorative daggers to his barbarian hordes engraved with "Always remember, loot before you burn!" That's what we've come to. How do you like it?

Ex-Cat Dobyns details former life as ATF agent – Feb 9, 2009 – *Arizona* – By John Moredich - Jay Dobyns stood above the body, gazing at the motorcycle rider's twisted torso. The man's wrists & ankles were taped & blood spilled from his head into the sand. The hoax had begun. Faking a murder such as this, setting up drug deals & taking part in pretended gun runs became an everyday occurrence for the former University of Arizona wide receiver. He was trying to catch criminals as an undercover agent with the ATF in his biggest case since joining the ATF in 1987. Welcome to operation "Black Biscuit," an ATF mission to infiltrate the Hells Angels motorcycle club from 2001-2003 throughout Arizona, California & Nevada. Tucsonan Dobyns went undercover as "Jaybird" - his Hells Angels nickname - decorating himself with tattoos, shaving his head & riding a H-D. "I was present & witness to crimes. There was gun trafficking, drug trafficking, violence, intimidation," said Dobyns, 47. "I didn't put any drugs in anybody's hands & I didn't put guns in anybody's hands. I never forced anybody into confessing their

bad acts. Did I trick them into it? Absolutely, I did.” His 21-month undercover operation is detailed in a new book, “No Angel: My Harrowing Undercover Journey to the Inner Circle of the Hells Angels,” which was released Tuesday. The book, co-authored by Nils Johnson-Shelton, is a no-nonsense read on how Dobyns went from football star to being shot during his first week as an ATF agent, & from biker dude to family man. Dobyns went so far undercover for “Black Biscuit,” he had to fake the previously mentioned “murder” of a rival Mongols rider. The Mongol was really a federal agent covered with cow’s blood. Dobyns would buy guns & drugs from other undercover agents as part of the sting. “We orchestrated street theater,” Dobyns said. “Every time I could, I would pull a punch, sell drugs, do a drug deal, extortion, intimidate somebody. I would create my own opportunity to show them that I was a nasty dude.”

Before undercover work: Dobyns, a Sahuaro High School grad who played for the late Larry Smith at UA, was prepared to start his pro career when he left the Wildcats for the NFL combine testing in 1985. After catching 50 passes as a junior in 1983 & 42 passes in 1984 while building a reputation for sure hands & clutch receptions, the 6-foot-1, 175-pound Dobyns expected to play in the NFL. But his combine group before the draft consisted of future NFL all-time career receptions leader Jerry Rice, & noted future pros Andre Reed, Jay Novacheck, Al Toon & UA’s Vance Johnson. “I went in there thinking I was a big thing; that if I could do it in the Pac-10 I could do it anywhere,” said Dobyns, who led UA in receiving with 694 yards in 1983. “It was an eye-opening experience. That combine was life-changing.” Dobyns was not drafted.

No Sonny Crockett: The television show “Miami Vice” was entertainment for some, inspiring to Dobyns. Actor Don Johnson made life as an undercover agent look appealing. “I thought I could be the next Sonny Crockett,” Dobyns said. “The world that Hollywood & television creates for us is very different from the reality of it. It’s not a glamorous business. “I didn’t drive a Lambo & wear silk suits or pull up to a mansion & have strippers bring me martinis & negotiate multikilo deals with big kingpins. “I was driving an ‘82 Malibu where the windows didn’t work. I had a floor-mounted radio that I had to throw a towel over to go meet with people in the undercover world. Instead of pulling into mansions, you’re pulling into a trailer park. Instead of super models handing you martinis, it’s a women - if she has a full head of teeth, you’re lucky - with a stale Pabst Blue Ribbon beer.”

Regrets? “I loved it,” Dobyns said. “Being shot at or having the dog-snot beat out of me in undercover deals & holding homemade garage bombs & having guns pushed in your face is something I don’t regret or would change.”

Shot the first week: Only a week into his duties with ATF, Dobyns was wounded on Nov. 19, 1987, while trying to serve a warrant. Chasing a suspect through the desert by Tucson Internat’l Airport should have been easy for somebody who clocked in at the NFL combine in 4.6 seconds in the 40-yard dash. It wasn’t. “My teammates (fellow ATF agents) were busting my (chops) & saying no wonder I was not playing in the NFL, you just got outrun by a 140-pound junkie in motorcycle boots,” Dobyns said. “They were giving me the business.” The chase wasn’t over. A witness pointed out where the man had fled. But Dobyns was ambushed by the man, who pointed a gun at his head & threw Dobyns into a car & told him to drive. Dobyns made a regrettable move & tried to get out. Bang. The man shot him. “It was a pretty wicked experience. Blood was squirting out of my chest like you had your thumb on a garden hose,” Dobyns said. “I

remember leaning against the car thinking, ‘I’ve been on the job a week & I’m going to die in this dirty trailer park.’ “ Dobyns recovered & resumed his undercover work. “I got the mentality that I was almost invincible after that; that I was bulletproof,” Dobyns said.

Infiltrating Hells Angels: His “Black Biscuit” assignment came after Dobyns had participated in several hundred undercover operations. The mission: “To see what the Hells Angels were all about, to befriend them, to see what they were doing,” Dobyns said. According to Dobyns, there was a shooting during a fight between the Hells Angels & Mongols at the Harrah’s Casino in Laughlin, Nev., drug busts & gun smuggling. In his book, Dobyns alleges that the Hells Angels asked him to prove himself by killing some “banditos” near the Nevada border. “They weren’t kidding,” Dobyns said. “They weren’t messing around. They said they were going to be watching & when these guys show up, if you don’t kill them, then we’re going to shoot you.” The confrontation was stopped just in time, but it proved to be the final straw, Dobyns said. Finally, in July 2003, after a 21-month investigation, more than 500 federal & Arizona law enforcement officers arrested nearly 55 alleged members of the Hells Angels. The arrests allegedly produced 1,600 pieces of evidence, the seizure of 650 guns, more than 100 explosives & 30,000 rounds of ammunition, according to the “America’s Most Wanted” Web site. The arrests were synchronized with raids in Nevada, California, Alaska & Washington state netting scores of additional suspects. But Dobyns felt let down by the aftermath of the operation. “Sadly, disputes over evidence & tensions between ATF & the U.S. Attorney’s killed our case,” Dobyns wrote. “Most of the serious charges were dismissed in early 2006, & as a result, hardly any of the guys were charged with RICO (Racketeering Influenced & Corrupt Organization) violations saw the inside of a courtroom.” Dobyns final thoughts: “I view it as a defeat.”

Home burns down: During his Hells Angels’ work, tried to go back & forth from Nevada to Tucson to coach his son’s T-ball games. The double life of being a dad & an undercover agent took its toll, & Dobyns retired from the ATF. He now owns & operates the Jay Dobyns Group LLC, a motivational speaking/consulting business. He gives presentations to private industry & business leaders. “I became so tunnel-visioned that I abandoned my family,” Dobyns said. “I’m not proud that I put everything I loved & cared about on the back burner. The true heroes are the families. They take the battle damage.” That proved true when the Dobyns’ Tucson house burned down in August 2008, with his wife, Gwen; daughter, Dale, & son, Jack, getting out in time. Dobyns, an outcast by the ATF for being outspoken about the case & the prosecutions of it, said his former department even tried to link him to the fire. “When our house burned down, my family is looking at me like, ‘This is never going to leave us. This is going to continue to haunt us forever,’ “ Dobyns said. To put the past behind him once & for all, Dobyns decided to write the book & tell his side of the story. He does not fear the wrath of his former ATF bosses or the Hells Angels. “I’m not running anymore,” he said.

Lost Tribe MC has one rule - Feb 9, 2009 – *Virginia* - The members of the Lost Tribe MC don’t have any rules, leaders, membership fees, dues or commitments, but they do request one thing: Jewish pride. Ed Forman & Michael I. Ashe, both avid motorcyclists, started the club 5 months ago. There are 18 members, & they are looking for more to join. The Lost Tribe’s name derives from the ancient tribes that disappeared when the kingdom of Israel was destroyed & remnants were exiled.

Finks lawyer hits back – Feb 9, 2009 – *Australia* – Police are using unfounded allegations, rumors & innuendo to convince the Rann Gov't to sanction the Finks MC, it has been claimed. A confidential SAPOL document, accuses members of crimes dating back to the 1970s. Yesterday the club's lawyer, Craig Caldicott, said it was based on dropped prosecutions, investigations that did not result in charges & "intelligence" that is inadmissible in court. He said it flew in the face of the idea that everyone is innocent until proven guilty. "Only a handful of cases in the document were not dropped, plea-bargained or actually ended in charges," he said. "The rest is untested, unproven allegations from arrest reports - notorious for exaggeration - rumor or innuendo." Last year, SAPOL applied to control the movements of the Finks under the Serious & Organized Crime (Control) Act (2008). In an open letter to the State Government last month, the Finks argued it was "not in the public interest" to sanction a club "made up of grandfathers" & the "gainfully employed". Using parliamentary privilege, Premier Mike Rann responded: "Breaking news - fathers & grandpas can commit crime." Yesterday, Caldicott said individual club members would not speak publicly for fear of police reprisal. "One bloke has a business - his concern is that he will be targeted & the business will suffer," he said. Caldicott said the police application would not withstand the burden of proof at a criminal trial, he said. "You use criminal intelligence to identify targets for investigation, then establish a provable case," he said. "Police are aware that, in most instances, intelligence can be wrong, so why are they relying on it for this application?" He urged the Gov't to compare the application with court transcripts & sentencing remarks. "The Attorney-General is being asked to make a decision based on only one side of the story," he said. "We ask the Attorney-General: don't rush to judgment, & don't take the police case at face value." Assistant Commissioner Tony Harrison said "considerable work was undertaken" to prepare the application as "required by legislation". "We are confident that the application provides a comprehensive picture of crime & criminality by members of the organization," he said.

Biker gang chief gets 9 years in prison – Feb 10, 2009 - *Stockholm, Sweden* - AP - The leader of a Swedish chapter of the Bandidos MC has been found guilty of orchestrating two car bombings in 2006. Mehdi Seyyed was sentenced to 9 years in prison. The Goteborg district court on Wed said the 34-year-old ordered attacks against 2 men in the city on the west coast of Sweden. Hand grenades exploded under their cars, but both survived. The court says one of the car owners had appeared as a witness against Seyyed in an earlier trial, while the other had denied him access to a night club. Seyyed has denied the charges. It wasn't immediately clear if he would appeal. Four others received sentences between 2.5 years & 9 years in prison for involvement in the explosions.

Witness tells of payments to Hells Angels - Feb 10, 2009 - *Canada* - By Neal Hall, Canwest News Service - A drug dealer explained Monday how he had to shell out up to \$30,000 to a Vancouver Hells Angels member after a large shipment of marijuana went missing. "I made 3 small payments, between \$20,000 & \$30,000," the man testified at the trial of four members of Vancouver's East End chapter of the Hells Angels: Ronaldo Lising, Randy Potts, John Punko & Jean Joseph Violette. The 28-count indictment alleges the Hells Angels chapter is a criminal organization & that the accused committed such crimes as extortion & uttering death threats "for the benefit of, at the direction of, or in association with a criminal organization, to wit the East End chapter of the Hells Angels." B.C. Supreme Court Justice Selwyn Romilly imposed a ban on the name of the

witness, who testified he tried to explain to Lising that the shipment was seized by police, but Lising believed the load had been ripped off. The witness recalled Lising demanded payment of "50 grand" for the missing load, which was shipped to the U.S. through Alberta. The man explained he phoned his lawyer, who made some calls to police & wrote a letter explaining the 140-kilogram shipment of marijuana, contained in nine hockey bags, was seized by the RCMP in Alberta & police in Montana. The witness, who has a minor criminal record for assault & possessing marijuana, recalled he got a friend to give the lawyer's letter to Richard Goldammer, an East End Hells Angels member, "to prove my innocence." He said he later got a text message from Lising saying, "Good luck. We don't want your money." The jury trial, which began last September, continues in a high-security courtroom at the Vancouver Law Courts.

Warlock biker faces drug, weapons charges – Feb 11, 2009 – *Pennsylvania* - By Kitty Caparella; Philadelphia Daily News - Now 64, Daniel "Dirty Dick" Mcelheney, the recording secretary for the Warlocks Outlaw MC, might have learned a few things about guns & drugs by this time. But Mcelheney, of Loretto Ave near Van Kirk Street, is facing a March 19 preliminary hearing stemming from his arrest last Wed on charges of drug possession & delivery, receiving stolen goods & weapons violations. During the Feb. 3 snowfall, Inspector Robert Snyder said, the narcotics field unit was conducting surveillance when Mcelheney left his home & got into his truck nearby. A car, driven by Thomas McHale, 42, of Hellerman Street near Hasbrook Ave, pulled up on Loretto Ave & McHale got into Mcelheney's truck, where police saw money exchanged for a small package, Snyder said. Police later stopped McHale & found a small amount of drugs. He was arrested & charged with drug possession. Meantime, police obtained a search warrant, & the next day raided Mcelheney's home, where they found 62 tablets of Xanax, 17 doses of oxycodone, six rifles - including 1 with an obliterated serial number - & 10 handguns, 2 of which allegedly had been stolen. Mcelheney was arrested under his alias, Richard Mcelheney.

Police raid Hells Angels clubs - Feb 11, 2009 - *Denmark* - Police officers have raided two Hells Angels strongholds in Copenhagen in a search for weapons, according to Copenhagen Police Supt. Steffen Steffensen, who adds that his officers are searching for weapons. "We're seeing what we can find, we have dogs inside looking," Supt. Steffensen says. The two strongholds being searched are on Svanevej in Copenhagen & Lindgreens Allé in Amager.

What a difference 4 years makes... Headlines 4 years ago:

- "Republicans spending \$42 million on inauguration while troops Die in unarmored Humvees"
- "Bush extravagance exceeds any reason during tough economic times"
- "Fat cats get their \$42 million inauguration party, Ordinary Americans get the shaft"

Headlines Today:

- "Historic Obama Inauguration will cost only \$120 million"
- "Obama Spends \$120 million on inauguration; America Needs A Big Party"
- "Everyman Obama shows America how to celebrate"
- "Citibank executives contribute \$8 million to Obama Inauguration"

Over 1.8 Million People attended the Inauguration Tuesday..... Only 27 had to miss work!!!

Fatal stabbing draws 15-year sentence – Feb 11, 2009 – *Fairbanks, Alaska* – AP - A 43-year-old Chitina man with a 20-year criminal history & ties to the Hell's Angels received a 15-year prison sentence for the fatal stabbing of a North Pole man. Thomas Hale's sentence came four months after a guilty verdict for manslaughter & evidence tampering. Superior Court Judge Michael A. MacDonald told Hale the sentence was the "sordid by-product of a dangerous life." Hale stabbed 49-year-old James Steward at his home in the late summer of 2007. Hale & 3 other men had gone to Steward's home reportedly to get information from Steward. Hale & Steward got into a fight with Steward reportedly attacking first. Hale stabbed Steward, then fled the area, leaving the man to bleed to death.

Texas Senate moving to stop 'highway piracy' – Feb 11, 2009 – *Texas* - By Bud Kennedy - This might be tough to believe, but the Texas Legislature might actually be on the verge of doing something good. The Senate wants to stop small-town police & county deputies from searching drivers just to seize their cars & money. Or that's the way I read an official report. In one town in East Texas, reporters recently found that fewer than half the drivers searched by police were ever charged with any crime. Yet they were still leveraged into giving up cash, jewelry & cars to police & prosecutors in Tenaha & Shelby County, near the Louisiana state line. One lawyer now suing Tenaha calls it "highway piracy." The Senate report seems to back that up. The report to the Criminal Justice Committee says bluntly that agencies & entire Texas counties "have come to rely on drug money to pay for their basic operations." In Texas, "drug money" can be innocent people's money. It's the jackpot seized from any motorist vaguely connected to a police drug investigation. In Tenaha, according to the San Antonio Express-News, police seized money & property even when they never filed cases or documented any evidence. The mayor of Tenaha says that is all fine with him. "Anytime you get money you can use in your department to enforce police laws — anything always helps," Mayor George Bowers, 80, said on Lufkin TV station KTRE. Sure. I guess cherry-picking 140 motorists in the last 3 years — mostly African-American drivers from out of state — & emptying their pockets for \$4,000 or more apiece would help Tenaha. One county constable alone seized more than \$70,000 in a year. Under civil law, motorists must hire lawyers & prove in civil court that their money or cars were not connected to drug possession, & some just give up. In Montgomery County, in the conservative suburbs of Houston, prosecutors used seized money to throw law officers a beer & margarita party, according to The Economist. One Texas district attorney took prosecutors to Hawaii. Houston Democrat Sen. John Whitmire chairs the Senate committee. The idea of taking innocent drivers' money & property — "that's theft as far as I'm concerned," he told the Express-News. The vice chairman, McAllen Democrat Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, was quoted as saying law enforcement agencies are so cash-strapped that officers are "more focused on trying to find the money than on trying to find the drugs." The report recommends state oversight for seized assets & concludes: "These examples have a cumulative effect: The integrity & the trust in the criminal justice system is undermined." Motorists have always been warned to watch for banditos if they cross the border. Never knew that meant the Texas border.

No man survives when freedom fails, The best men rot in filthy jails, & those who cry 'appease, appease' Are hanged by those they tried to please. – Hiram Mann

Council mulls extra day for Bike Week vendors – Feb 11, 2009 - *New Hampshire* - By John Koziol - Saying it represents a "goodwill gesture" as well as an opportunity to bring in some extra licensing revenues, the City Council is supporting the idea of letting vendors sell their wares one day before the official start of Bike Week 2009. Following a meeting of the council's Finance Committee Monday, City Manager Eileen Cabanel was directed to draft an ordinance that, following a public hearing, could be in place for the rally, which this year runs from June 13-21. For \$100 extra, a vendor would be able to start doing business as of a time to be determined on June 12. A regular Bike Week licensing permit costs \$450. The rationale behind the early vending fee is that the vendors are already here, that they want to sell & that locals are eager to buy before the activities really start rolling, said Councilors Armand Bolduc & Bob Hamel. The city's public safety heads say the extended vending wouldn't change the way they already did business on the Friday before the rally, but both Police Chief Moyer & Fire Chief Erickson expressed concern about the "slippery slope" of Bike Week stretching beyond its current nine days. While it was agreed that food vendors might also want to begin doing business as their t-shirt or leathers-selling brethren, the chiefs & the committee members were adamant that they would not support the early opening of three beer tents. Moyer, in conversations he had with rally promoter Charlie St. Clair of the Laconia Motorcycle Week Association, estimated that the earlier vending could see the city make up to an additional \$1,200 this year. Erickson speculated that up to 30 vendors might take advantage of the extra selling opportunity.

Nude biker crashes with trooper's car – Feb 11, 2009 – *Arkansas* - A naked man who crashed with an Arkansas state trooper's cruiser on a night when it was sleeting faces misdemeanor charges. A Searcy police report says 35-year-old Christopher A. Clark of Searcy kept riding when a trooper tried to pull him over during the Jan. 26 incident. Clark stopped abruptly several times in the street & then sped up quickly, until the trooper bumped him on 1 of the stops. The report didn't indicate any injuries but both vehicles were damaged. A witness quoted in the police report says Clark was "naked as a jaybird." Searcy police cited Clark for indecent exposure, fleeing & not having a vehicle license. State police are still investigating.

This was written by a black gentleman in Texas & is so funny. What a great sense of humor & creativity!!!

When I was born, I was Black,
When I grew up, I was Black,
When I went in the sun, I stayed Black,
When I got cold, I was Black,
When I was scared, I was Black,
When I was sick, I was Black,
And when I die, I'll still be Black.

Now, You "White" folks....

When you're born, you're Pink,
When you grow-up, you're White,
When you go in the sun, you get red,
When you're cold, you turn Blue,
When you're scared, you're Yellow,
When you get sick, you're Green,
When you bruise, you turn Purple,
And when you die, you look Gray.

So who y'all callin' Colored folks!!!

No free man shall ever be debarred the use of arms.
- Thomas Jefferson

Philadelphia officer falsified evidence – Feb 11, 2009 –

Pennsylvania – AP - A city police officer has been accused by his former informant of falsifying evidence to build cases against suspected drug dealers. Both the district attorney's office & the police department are investigating Ventura Martinez's allegations against narcotics Officer Jeffrey Cujdik, 34, who has been on the force nearly 12 years. Cujdik's lawyer, George Bochetto, said his client's informant of 7 years is a liar. Martinez alleged in an article in Monday's Philadelphia Daily News that Cujdik instructed him at least 2 dozen times to buy drugs elsewhere after Martinez was unable to buy from a targeted house. Cujdik then lied in the subsequent search-warrant applications, saying the drugs had come from the targeted house, Martinez told the paper. Bochetto called the article a "disgrace" & said there was not "one hard fact or credible witness to corroborate" Martinez's allegations. "He's an admitted liar, an admitted drug dealer, & has a felony record as long as your arm," Bochetto said. The police department confirmed its internal affairs unit began investigating Cujdik last month. He has been placed on desk duty. Local prosecutors will be looking at pending criminal cases involving Cujdik that could be compromised if the allegations are true, said Cathie Abookire, spokeswoman for the Philadelphia district attorney's office. So will defense lawyers. Bradley S. Bridge, an attorney with the city's Defender Association, said Monday he would likely seek the release of some imprisoned defendants within the next week. "My first priority is to get people who were wrongly imprisoned out of jail," Bridge said, adding that he is now looking at a dozen cases that "are clearly problematic." The police Dept pays confidential informants to make drug buys or provide information that leads to gun & drug arrests. But officers are required to keep an arm's-length relationship with informants. Martinez also alleges that he rented a house from Cujdik for years, paying at least \$20,000 in rent _ money he earned from being an informant. Bochetto said Cujdik leased the house to a woman, only later learning that Martinez had moved in. The case echoes one from 14 years ago in which five rogue city police officers were charged with preying on drug suspects, stealing their money & covering up the busts with bogus arrest & search warrants. Within 5 years, what began as a probe into 40 questionable arrests resulted in almost 500 people being released from prison. The city subsequently paid more than \$4 million to settle Fed civil-rights suits filed by people wrongly arrested & jailed.

Police, CMC to get phone tap powers - Feb 11, 2009 - **Australia**

- By Marissa Calligeros - The Queensland Gov't says it has cleared the path for the state's corruption watchdog & police to gain new phone tapping powers, under new laws to be tabled in Parliament today. Amendments made to the Telephone Interception Bill - & expected to be passed with support from both sides of the House - would ensure police could not abuse increased investigative powers, Police Minister Judy Spence said. A Public Interest Monitor (PIM) would be established to oversee Queensland Police & the Crime & Misconduct Commission in relation to telephone interception powers, Ms Spence said. Australian Federal Police have had the power to tap telephones in Queensland under federal legislation, but the Queensland Police Service & the Crime & Misconduct Commission have been restricted. "The PIM will be involved in the warrant application process & the compliance process after monitoring is finished," Ms Spence said. The Queensland Police Service & the Crime & Misconduct Commission will be required to consult with the PIM prior to making all telephone intercept warrant applications. Organized crime & outlaw motorcycle gangs will be the prime

targets of the new telephone interception powers, which were first flagged by the Minister in August. Queensland Police Union Pres Cameron Pope today welcomed the imminent introduction of phone tap powers, through which Victorian prosecutors have gained a 93% conviction rate in covert operations. Police had been asking for phone tap powers for 10 years, Pope said. "We've been behind the rest of Australia for a long time now in relation to phone tapping powers & we're certainly looking forward to it," he said. "It's a bonus for the public & certainly for the police." Pope said outlaw motorcycle gangs had deliberately moved to Queensland to avoid detection by phone taps. "What you are looking at is serious offences like drug trafficking, murders, the investigation of outlaw motorcycle groups who are involved in major crime." Telephone interception evidence is used in 85 per cent of serious criminal cases where evidence is available. Crime & Misconduct Commission Director of Intelligence Christopher Keen said the use of such laws in Australia's "fluid, loosely associated" crime networks was necessary. Keen said the introduction of phone tap powers teamed with current investigation powers would be used to effectively combat the state's "robust & dynamic" organized crime syndicates.

Ariz. man charged in 1979 death – Feb 12, 2009 – **Ohio** - A 56-

year-old Arizona man who fled from Warren in 1979 after being accused of killing an 18-year-old Warren Township man has been returned to Trumbull County & pleaded innocent to a murder charge. Ronald Stahlman of Payson, Ariz., was brought to the Trumbull County Jail on Monday & appeared Tuesday morning in the courtroom of Judge Andrew Logan in Trumbull County Common Pleas Court. Stahlman faces a murder charge that carries with it a possible prison sentence of 15 years to life. A press release from the U.S. Marshals Service says Stahlman, then a member of the Outlaws MC, & some friends were involved in an assault in which Stahlman stabbed Bernard Williamson

This year, taxpayers will receive an Economic Stimulus Payment.

This is a very exciting new program that I will explain using the Q & A format:

Q. What is an Economic Stimulus Payment?

A. It is money that the Fed Gov't will send to taxpayers.

Q. Where will the Gov't get this money?

A. From taxpayers.

Q. So the Gov't is giving me back my own money?

A. Only a smidgen.

Q. What is the purpose of this payment?

A. The plan is that you will use the money to purchase a High-definition TV set, thus stimulating the economy.

Q. But isn't that stimulating the economy of China ?

A. Shut up.

Below is some helpful advice on how to best help the US economy by spending your stimulus check wisely:

- If you spend at Wal-Mart, all the money will go to China.
- If you spend it on gasoline it will go to the Arabs.
- If you purchase a computer it will go to India.
- If you purchase fruit & vegetables it will go to Mexico, Honduras, & Guatemala (unless you buy organic).
- If you buy a car it will go to Japan.
- If you purchase useless crap it will go to Taiwan.

And none of it will help the American economy.

We need to keep that money here in America. You can keep the money in America by spending it at yard sales, going to a baseball game, or spend it on prostitutes, beer(domestic Only), or **tattoos**, since those are the only businesses still left in the US.

Alleged Mongols motorcycle member arrested – Feb 12, 2009 – *California* – By Ben Baeder - Police say they have arrested another Mongol motorcycle gang member, this time on drug charges. Glendora Police arrested Ezekiel Lujan, 31, of Glendora on suspicion of dealing methamphetamines all over the San Gabriel Valley. Lujan is also suspected of possessing handguns as a felon. Officers watched Lujan for a month before pulling him over & detaining him Tue near a West Covina house he frequented, said Lt. Joe Ward of the Glendora Police Dept. In the house on the 200 block of N Garvey Ave, police found 4 pounds of meth, \$46,000 & 2 hand guns, Ward said. “He was dealing meth all over the San Gabriel Valley,” Ward said. The drugs had a wholesale value of \$100,000, Ward said. Police also found a helmet & a jacket emblazoned with Mongols symbols. No one else was arrested in connection with the case, Ward said. In Oct, a nationwide, federal sweep targeting members of the outlaw motorcycle gang led to 61 arrests in Southern California, concluding a 3-year undercover investigation. Many of the arrests in “Operation Black Rain” were made in the San Gabriel Valley. Everyone arrested in that sweep is a suspected member or associate of the Mongols MC, an organization that originated in Montebello in the 1970s, but is now headquartered in West Covina. Ward said the investigation into Lujan was not related to the federal sweep, but he suspected federal agencies were paying attention, he said. “In Advertisement law enforcement, everybody knows pretty quick when you make an arrest like this,” he said. The investigation into Lujan was carried out in conjunction with the La Verne & Irwindale PD’s, Ward said. Lujan bailed out of jail for \$200,000, Ward said.

Biker raids in Montreal – Feb 12, 2009 – *Canada* - Police officers are in the midst of conducting raids in a sweeping operation targeting outlaw bikers & at least 1 Montreal street gang. There are warrants for about 60 suspects in dozens of locations around Montreal in what police have dubbed Operation Axe. Between 600 & 700 officers are involved in the operation, which involves Montreal PD & officers from other municipalities. So far, police have released few details about the operation.

Police swoop down on gang members – Feb 12, 2009 - *Canada* - The Montreal police are carrying out a major operation described as one of the biggest to ever target street gang members. Included among those targeted in the operation is an influential member of the Hells Angels former underling network who is currently serving time at a penitentiary in Kingston, Ont. The inmate is serving time for offences that took place during the biker gang war in the 1990s. But he is now facing new charges related to the current investigation which targeted at least 2 major Montreal-based street gangs. The inmate was scheduled to have a parole hearing in the coming weeks. Another inmate at a federal penitentiary, the Leclerc Institution in Laval, is also expected to be placed under arrest. A police source said the investigation targeted both drug dealers & the heads of gangs. More than 700 police officers, including members of the Laval & Longueuil police, spanned out across the greater Montreal area where they are expected to make more than 50 arrests Thursday morning. The investigation that produced the operation targeted drug trafficking, among other things. In executing search warrants the police hope to seize drugs & firearms during the operation. Some of the people targeted in the operation are currently in jail.

We are all travelers in the wilderness of this world, & the best that we find in our travels is an honest friend.
- Robert Louis Stevenson

*~***Ode to Valentine’s Day***~*

Hearts and roses and kisses galore...

What the hell is that shit for

People get mushy and start acting queer
It’s definitely the most annoying day of the year.
This day needs to get the hell over with and pass.

Before I shove a dozen roses up Cupid’s ass.

I’ll spend the day so drunk I can’t speak

And wear all black for the rest of the week.

People act all sweet but soon it will fade...

For all they are doing is trying to get laid.

The arrow cupid shot at me must not have hit,

Because I think love is a bunch of Shit.

So there’s my story... what can I say...

Love bites ass... **Screw Valentine’s Day!**

Gang Bill Welcomed – Feb 12, 2009 – *New Zealand* - Mayor Michael Laws today welcomed the introduction of the Gangs & Organised Crime Bill into Parliament, saying that it will have “significant implications for Wanganui & the policing of the criminal gangs in our midst”. “Wanganui has three major criminal gangs - Hell’s Angels, Mongrel Mob & Black Power - & the Tribesmen are attempting to set up shop too. They represent a serious threat to Wanganui’s quality of life, & any legislation that inhibits their ability is going to be a good thing. “However, the bill does not go far enough. Gangs should be made illegal - as in South Australia - & dealt with under the ‘Suppression of Terrorism Act (2001). The council will make submissions to the bill, on behalf of the Wanganui community.” Mayor Laws said one issue covered in the bill related to the erection of gang fortifications. “If this bill goes through, then the Hells Angels premises in Kaikokopu Road are likely to receive attention from both the council & the Police. The legislation clarifies that such fortifications can be deemed illegal & removed.” The major features of the Gangs & Organized Crime Bill are; doubling the penalty for participation in a criminal gang making membership of a criminal gang an aggravating factor in sentencing giving Police greater powers with regard to interception warrants enabling removal orders to be sought to remove gang fortifications.

A jumbo jet is making its final approach to Calgary Airport The pilot picks up the intercom, “This is your Captain. We’re on our final descent into Calgary. I want to thank you for flying with us today & hope you enjoy your stay in the Calgary area”. He forgets to switch off the intercom. Now the whole plane can hear his conversation from the cockpit. The copilot can be heard saying to the pilot, “So, Skip, whatcha got planned while we’re in Calgary?” “Well,” says the skipper, “first I’m going check into the hotel, take a big crap.... Then I’m going to take that new stewardess with the huge tits out to dinner.... I ‘m going to wine & dine her, take her back to my room & give her a ride on the baloney pony all night long.” Aghast & amused, everyone on the plane hears this & immediately begins looking up & down the aisle, trying to figure out who this new stewardess is that the pilot’s talking about. Meanwhile, the new stewardess is seated at the very back of the plane. She is so embarrassed that she starts running toward the cockpit to turn the intercom off. Halfway down the aisle, she trips over an old lady’s bag & down she goes. The old lady leans over & says: “No need to hurry, dear. He’s gotta land the plane & take a shit first.”

No tendency is quite so strong in human nature as the desire to lay down rules of conduct for other people.

47 arrested in Que., Ont., gang sweep – Feb 13, 2009 – *Canada*

– By Paul Cherry, Montreal Gazette - Hundreds of police officers in Quebec & Ontario carried out a massive sweep Thursday to crack down on street gang members. The operation followed a lengthy investigation into drug trafficking, & targeted both dealers & gang leaders. In Quebec, more than 700 police officers, including members of the Laval & Longueuil police, fanned out across the greater Montreal area. As of Thursday afternoon 47 people had been arrested, including three women. Most of the suspects were to appear in court Friday, Montreal police said during an afternoon news conference. All were adults. Police expect to make further arrests. Police executed 63 search warrants, seizing 25 weapons, 2,300 rocks of crack cocaine, 41 kilograms of cocaine, 225 kilograms of marijuana, bulletproof vests, 12 computers & \$600,000 in cash. Charges include gangsterism, conspiracy to murder, arms possession, cocaine trafficking, crack production, conspiracy to import cocaine & possession for the purposes of trafficking. Included among those targeted in the operation is Gregory Wooley, an influential member of the Hells Angels former underling network who is currently serving time at a penitentiary in Kingston, Ont. Wooley, a former member of the Rockers, a Hells Angels puppet gang, is serving time for offences that took place during the biker gang war in the 1990s. But he is now facing new charges related to the current investigation which targeted at least two major Montreal-based street gangs. Wooley was scheduled to have a parole hearing in the coming weeks. A 38-year-old inmate at another federal penitentiary, the Leclerc Institution in Laval, Que., is also expected to be placed under arrest. The man at Leclerc is believed to be the head of the Syndicate street gang & was arrested in another large drug bust that struck his gang & the Hells Angels. A Quebec police source said the investigation targeted the Syndicate & other groups aligned with the Blue or Crips side of Montreal street gangs. "This operation targeted people involved with cocaine trafficking," said Montreal police Sgt. Ian Lafreniere, adding suspects were involved in importing & trafficking in Montreal & in Ottawa. "It's not only the people selling on the street level. It's top people (in the gangs) as well," he said. "This investigation began in January 2006. So this was a long investigation & a huge operation today. We believe we've hit the top of the chain." Ontario police forces conducted search warrants Wednesday night & Thursday morning on residences in Smiths Falls, Ont. & Ottawa. The investigation by the Smiths Falls Police, Ottawa Police & the Ontario Provincial Police targeted street level drug dealers & involved an undercover police officer who was placed in the drug subculture to make illegal drug buys. Police say the list grew to more than 25 street level drug dealers & quantities of cocaine, marijuana, ecstasy & other prescription-controlled substances were purchased & seized. A number of charges, including trafficking in controlled substances, against several people have been laid...

A terrific explosion occurred in a gunpowder factory, & once all the mess has been cleared up, & inquiry begins. One of the few survivors was pulled up to make a statement. "Okay Simpson," said the investigator, "you were near the scene - what happened?" "Well, it's like this. Old Charley Higgins was in the mixing room, & I saw him take a cigarette out of his pocket & light up." "He was smoking in the mixing room?" the investigator said in stunned horror, "How long had he been with the company?" "About 20 years, sir" "20 years in the company, then he goes & strikes a match in the mixing room, I'd have thought it would have been the last thing he'd have done." "It was, sir."

You can have my Freedom when I'm done with it!

Bikie gangs unite to fight Rann – Feb 13, 2009 – *Australia* – By Roy Eccleston - Adelaide's notorious Finks MC is preparing for a High Court challenge to the Rann Govt's new anti-bikie laws if it is declared an outlaw gang. The decision to seek legal opinion from a top senior counsel comes as rival gangs begin meetings aimed at improving their sometimes violent relationships and public image. Details of the meetings are revealed in saweekend magazine, in Saturday's Advertiser today. One meeting last month was hosted by the Descendants and attended by gangs including the Rebels, Gypsy Jokers, Finks and Hells Angels. Descendants founder Tom Mackie said the clubs needed to try to shed the criminal image and return to their roots. "We are many things that they say we are but we are not all of them," he said. Under the Serious and Organised Crime (Control) Act police claim the Finks are a criminal gang and a public danger, made up of 46 members and responsible for a wide array of offences including rape, assault and drug manufacture. Premier Mike Rann has claimed they are among the most heinous criminals in society. Attorney-General Michael Atkinson is expected to decide soon if he will outlaw the gang, a move that would prevent members from mixing with each other on a regular basis. If so, they could be issued with control orders preventing them mixing with each other, and with anyone else on a regular basis outside certain approved circumstances. Finks' lawyer Craig Caldicott said the club would argue a judge should be able to decide if justice had been done. He said the law forbids judges to review a government decision, even though it could be made on secret evidence that wouldn't be admissible in court. "It is usurping the courts function - parliament is seeking to make the courts a rubber stamp," he said. The concern is widely held among lawyers. SA Law Society president John Goldberg says the laws are reminiscent of the Nazi era in Germany and the Mccarthy era in the US, when authorities ignored basic rights to target specific groups. Goldberg says the law doesn't require proof beyond reasonable doubt, undermines the presumption of innocence and prevents access to the courts to challenge what might be biased, unfounded and unreasonable decisions either by the Attorney general or police.

A Catholic Priest, an Indian Doctor, a rich Chinese businessman & an Italian from New York were waiting one morning for a particularly slow group of golfers in front of them. The Italian from New York fumed, 'What's with those jerks? We're waiting fifteen minutes between shots!' The Indian Doctor chimed in, 'I don't know, but I've never seen such poor golf!' The Chinese businessman called out 'Move it, time is money'!!! The Catholic Priest said, 'Here comes the greens keeper. Let's have a word with him.' 'Excuse me, Sir! Said the Catholic Priest, 'What's wrong with that group ahead of us? They're rather slow, aren't they?' The greens keeper replied, 'Oh, yes. That's a group of blind fire fighters. They lost their sight saving our clubhouse from a fire last year, so we always let them play for free anytime.' The group fell silent for a moment. The Catholic Priest said, 'That's so sad. I think I will say a special prayer for them tonight.' The Indian Doctor said, 'Good idea. I'm going to contact my Ophthalmologist colleague & see if there's anything that he might be able to do for them.' The Chinese businessman replied, 'I think I'll donate \$50,000 to the fire fighters Union in honor of these brave souls'!! The Italian from New York said, 'Why The Fuck can't they play at night?'

National Coalition of Motorcyclists...

An Idea Whose Time Has Come...