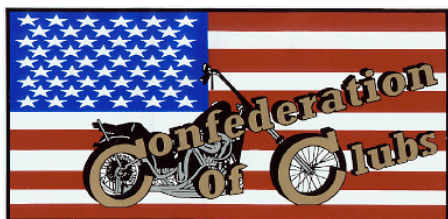


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Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter...

February 2009 – Issue 3...



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...

**Definition of an Elephant:** Mouse made to Government specifications...

NCOM Sponsors this Newsletter with a donation of \$200.00 per month. NCOM; Richard And Joseph Lester; Attorneys At Law...  
Soldiers For Jesus MC Nation donates \$ 50.00 a month... Bandidos MC USA donates \$ 50.00 a month...  
Pagan's MC Lazy who donates \$ 50.00 a month... Warlocks MC Nation donates \$ 35.00 a month...  
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Heathens MC from Florida donates \$ 25.00 a month... Sons Of Silence MC Nation donates \$ 25.00 month...  
Breed MC Mother Chapter donates \$ 30.00 a month... Oregon COC donates \$ 25.00 a month...  
Billy Powell's Ink Works, VA donates of \$ 25.00 a month... MMCC from Minnesota donates \$17.00 a month...  
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SOS MC LiL Paul & his wife Lynn from North Dakota for his \$ 25.00 a month...  
Michigan SteelHorse Riders MC Cappy, Chino, Defender, & Q donates \$ 25.00 a month...  
SOS MC/ Silent Thunder MC Clubhouse in Fargo, North Dakota makes a Great donations each month...

Thanks goes to **Sundowner Beaver** for his Donation of \$ 100.00 to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter...

**Special Thank** you goes to **SOS Supporter Kolby Lee** for his \$ 50.00 Donations to this BBB Newsletter... (FCI - Fort Worth, TX)

In Memory of **Bandido Eclipse** from *Colorado* who died February 21th at 10:15 pm... R.I.P. Eclipse...  
Eclipse was my Contact with the Bandidos MC with regards to this Newsletter and a Friend...

Congratulations to **Breed Tommy Trash** for his release date of March 1<sup>st</sup>...

Congratulations to **Christian Motorcycle Association Tricky** for his upcoming release...

Welcome **Outlaw Joe** to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter Mailing List...

Welcome **Fink Travis (Australia)** to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter Mailing List...

Welcome **Detroit Highwaymen John** to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter Mailing List...

**Editor's Note:** For December there were 3 issues, For January there were 2 issues, For February this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 4 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...

**Editor's Note:** As you may know, I get busy with this newsletter, so if I forget something that you asked me, write me again to remind me.

**Editor's Note:** Corrections to "*The Forsaken Few*":

**"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;  
*Get locked up in prison and laugh through it all.*

*We been lied to and cheated by family and friends;*  
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

**Why I Carry a Gun** - This Century – USA – By Author  
Unknown (but obviously brilliant) - My old grandpa once said to me, "Son, there comes a time in every man's life when he stops bustin' knuckles & starts bustin' caps & usually it's when he becomes too old to take an ass whoopin'. I don't carry a gun to kill people. I carry a gun to keep from being killed. I don't carry a gun to scare people. I carry a gun because sometimes this world can be a scary place. I don't carry a gun because I'm paranoid. I carry a gun because there are real threats in the world. I don't carry a gun because I'm evil. I carry a gun because I have lived long enough to see the evil in the world. I don't carry a gun because I hate the Gov't. I carry a gun because I understand the limitations of Gov't. I don't carry a gun because I'm angry. I carry a gun so that I don't have to spend the rest of my life hating myself for failing to be prepared. I don't carry a gun because I want to shoot someone. I carry a gun because I want to die at a ripe old age in my bed, & not on a sidewalk somewhere tomorrow afternoon. I don't carry a gun because I'm a cowboy. I carry a gun because, when I die & go to Heaven, I want to be a cowboy. I don't carry a gun to make me feel like a man. I carry a gun because men know how to take care of themselves & the ones they love. I don't carry a gun because I feel inadequate. I carry a gun because, unarmed & facing 3 armed thugs, I am inadequate. I don't carry a gun because I love it. I carry a gun because I love life & the people who make it meaningful to me. "Police Protection" is an oxymoron. Free citizens must protect themselves. Police do not protect you from crime; they usually just investigate the crime after it happens & then call someone in to clean up the mess. Personally, I carry a gun because I'm too young to die & too old to take an ass whoopin'." Remember the average response time to a 911 call is over 4 minutes. The average response time of a 357 magnum is 1400 FPS.

**Any elected official** who attempts to alter or subvert the Constitution they swore to uphold & protect, is therefore Guilty of Treason, punishable by Death. Hang a few, & maybe the rest will learn to respect what they're supposed to be guarding!

**Biker Gangs Trilogy** - Biker Gangs: 101 by Ron Holmes, ATF (Rtd) \* This Note is Copyright © 2009 Classic Parts Hotline I know this Ron Holmes. He's a real p.o.s... One of my advertisers asked me to send my newsletter to his friend in jail awaiting trial. I sent the guy the newsletter. Holmes called all my advertisers & told them I'm a 'gang' affiliate. I could only figure the one source, so I wrote the guy in jail to ask if he knew this Holmes agent. It wasn't about a day later I had a collect call telling me Holmes was dirty. So I volunteered to help w/ the RICO case. I'd done garden variety criminal cases & a couple kidnapping or murder for hire, but this was the first RICO. Holmes was so dirty that the AUSA didn't call him as a witness. We called him as a defense witness. He ran around, even hid under the desk, when we tried to serve him his subpoena. Finally, our investigator laid in wait by his auto to serve him. He was one of our strongest witnesses. Last I'd heard of him (until today) the Gary (Indiana) police kept him on ice overnight because they didn't want to actually arrest his drunken ass for driving. At that time, ATF had taken him off field duty and assigned him to a desk. Oh well. :) Becky Cakes, Publisher Classic Parts Hotline

**Man faces 5 years in prison** – Feb 13, 2009 - *Syracuse, New York* - A New Hartford man faces up to 5 years in prison after pleading guilty to a charge in Fed court, Fed attys said Fri. Frank Perotta, 48, of New Hartford, pleaded guilty to making a false statement to the FBI, attys said. U.S. District Court Judge David N. Hurd in Utica scheduled sentencing for Tuesday, June 16, at which time Perotta faces up to 5 years in prison & a \$250,000 fine. In 2006 & 2007, the FBI, state police, the Onondaga County Sheriff's Dept & the Oneida County Sheriff's Office had been investigating whether the Hells Angels MC Nomads Chapter was engaged in racketeering activity in Central & Northern New York, officials said. Perotta was questioned by Special Agent Robert DeSantis of the FBI on 2 occasions, & in both incidents he denied talking with David Lust, a member of the Hells Angels MC Nomads Chapter. Telephone records & testimony from other witnesses prove that this was false, attorneys said.

**Myrtle Beach police arrest man** – Feb 13, 2009 – *South Carolina* – By Tonya Root - Myrtle Beach police arrested a man who claimed to be a member of the Hells Angels MC after another man reported he pointed a gun at him, according to a police report. Alex William Sawyer, 34, was charged with resisting arrest & providing false information after he gave police 2 different names when they questioned him about 5:30 p.m. Thursday at the Bar Harbor Motel, police said. A 27-year-old Laurinburg, N.C., man told police Sawyer tried to come into their motel room while his girlfriend was there Wed night, according to the report. On Thursday the man's daughter pointed out Sawyer as the man who tried to come into the room. The man confronted Sawyer, who said he was a member of the Hells Angels & would kill him, according to the report. The man said he got his family & as they went to get into their car Sawyer was in the doorway of his room & pointed a handgun at him. The man said he told his family to return to their room & call police, according to the report. Police did not find a gun in Sawyer's room when they arrived & he allowed them to search it. Josh Johnson, who is a member of the Myrtle Beach Hells Angels MC, said Sawyer is not a member of the club & members do not know the man.

**Baskin Robbins** is introducing a new ice cream in honor of the inauguration - "Barocky Road"... It's half vanilla, half chocolate, & surrounded by a horde of fruits & nuts!

**Who are you looking at?** – Feb 13, 2009 - *Australia* - By Adam Shand - Bikies have been called our most heinous criminals. But at a rare meeting of rival gangs, members insist they are not all bad. The headquarters of the Descendants MC is neutral ground for Adelaide's outlaw bikies, but there's still tension as they roll their machines through the big, black iron gates. At the bar, the 5 Rebels members stand away from the rest & stay in their tight circle. Hells Angels & Finks, the memories of recent conflicts still fresh, keep a discreet distance apart, separated by a patchwork of colours around the corner of the bar – Gypsy Jokers, Descendants & even some Christian bikies, the Longriders. It's early in the evening & the 30 men maintain a studied coolness. The setting is suitably dark & foreboding with medieval battle axes & daggers lining the walls & the Descendants' club motif, the mythical Gryphon with eagle head on a lion's body, watching over. Just to be here is remarkable; there are brawls that go back decades between these groups. One ill-chosen word, a misinterpreted gesture, even a spilt drink & the place could ignite. If, as members believe, police eavesdrop through hidden listening devices in their clubs, you wonder what they will be making of this unprecedented gathering. Each club has taken a risk to be here, but they've done so because they feel there's a big principle at stake – the survival of all the club patches they wear. They are meeting to explore the things that unite rather than divide them, & to understand how their peculiar ethos of brotherhood, with its tolerance of crime, has brought them into conflict with society. "F\*\*\* me," says a 25-year veteran of one club, before draining the first of countless beers. "We've punched on with some of these clubs & here we are drinking with 'em. Never thought I'd see this." All these clubs face extinction under Premier Mike Rann's new Serious & Organised Crime (Control) Act. Police Commissioner Mal Hyde has sought the declaration of the Finks MC as a criminal gang and, if Attorney-General Michael Atkinson agrees, the Finks could be issued with control orders & face up to 5 years' jail for meeting again. Police say the Finks are set up for crime & almost all have serious convictions. A lawyer for the Finks, Craig Caldicott, says that's not true. He claims 80 per cent of the members have convictions that are mostly for minor or old crimes & only a few have been jailed for serious crimes. Clearly, the bikies are worried; subsequently, they are more accessible. For the first time, they are discussing the make-up of their membership. The Descendants' founder, 54-year-old Tom Mackie, claims the police have yet to prove clubs are set up for the purpose of organised crime. "This is really an attempt to regulate who we can associate with," he says. "It's Big Brother determining our friendships which most people in a democracy would find pretty ordinary." One result of the Government campaign has been to politicise & to some extent unite the bikie leadership. Many are founding members of a new political group, the FREE (Freedom Rights Educate Environment) Australia Party, which has recently applied for registration. The irony of the meeting this night is not lost on the bikies. A law designed to isolate & marginalise club members is actually bringing them together. An interclub ride in Adelaide late last year broke the ice, leading to the January meeting. From this, a loose coalition of club elders has been formed. If issues arise between clubs, the elders will act as a contact point to prevent hostilities. With long gray locks & goatee beard, Mackie looks the image of the bikie elder. He works at an Adelaide entertainment venue & plays soccer dad to a brood of kids in his spare time. Mackie has earned respect from other clubs for the success & stability of the Descendants. That's why the clubs agreed to meet there. Mackie asked clubs to bring younger members so they can learn how to deal with other patches. The tension between clubs has meant they have almost forgotten how to mix, he explains. There are

disputes between clubs here that are neither forgiven nor forgotten, some of them misunderstandings that have hardened into hostility. There has rarely been an opportunity like this to look each other in the eye & resolve the past. This reporter watches as 2 clubs with a history of animosity clear up outstanding business that has lingered for years. By the end of the night, members of the 2 clubs are trading jokes over the bar. Mackie nods approvingly. There's been enough blood spilt. It takes greater strength to resolve conflicts in peace & goodwill, he says. "If these fellas can get on & talk, sort out problems before they get out of hand, then there's no reason for pissed fights to become gunfights," he says. While the media may talk of turf wars over drugs, the bikie leaders claim the spark for most conflicts is the over-consumption of alcohol. They claim they spend much of their time not planning crime but preventing trivial matters escalating into violence. While that's not the view of police, it is true that members are expected to back up their mates – a fight over nothing in a pub can lead to a full-scale war as the troops are roused from bed all over town. "We are many things that they say we are, but we are not all of them," Mackie insists. "We believe it's time to just gently point out a few truths, to prevent public opinion from being manipulated against us." Clearly this meeting is a chance for some positive public relations for the clubs, but there is also a desire for peace among the wiser heads. Gradually, goodwill has built up between the senior members in the room. It began when the Finks responded to a letter from this reporter, then writing for The Bulletin magazine, seeking access to the club. A small group of senior members led by "Charlie", then sergeant at arms for the Finks north chapter, could see the future. Unlike most clubs, which have a hierarchical structure headed by 3 or 4 office bearers, the Finks have only a sergeant-at-arms, little more than a convenor of the 35 members. (The police believe there are 46 members.) Every member is as powerful as the next, with all issues resolved through a vote carried unanimously. Most clubs have a membership divided between those who spend regular stints in jail & those with only minor or no criminal histories. This can cause tension. Clubs have to deal with such factions, some more successfully than others. There is often a split between those who see membership as an expression of freedom & those who use it for their own, sometimes criminal, ends. For the leaders at this meeting, the 1 per cent badge on their colours doesn't automatically denote a criminal connection. It proclaims an alienation from the other 99 per cent of motorcycle riders & their desire for brotherhood. There are people with serious criminal histories in the room, but membership was not the starting point for such activity, Charlie says. Charlie joined the Finks 13 years ago to indulge his passion for building & riding motorcycles, his love of a good party & a fight. However distasteful the bikie culture was to others, it was something to believe in. In the early 1990s there was a bike show or a party to attend as a club every weekend. Different clubs mingled & although there were occasional brawls they rarely ended in gunfire. It seems like a distant memory. Clubs today avoid the few parties that are held & if they attend they claim they encounter more undercover cops than outlaw bikies. So is the Government's assault on the bikies going to work? In the past year, almost every club has lost members as the state has stepped up its war. If Rann manages to ban all the clubs it will presumably put them out of business. Not so, claim the bikie leaders. It will drive the problem underground & push out some reasonable men who have restrained the loose cannons from committing violence & other criminal acts, Mackie says. Bikies who have stayed out of jail in the past 15 years have prospered just as the rest of the community has, he says. It might surprise people to know that one senior Fink has sat on a Gov't

committee for nearly a decade with the knowledge of a Cabinet minister. "We are not hiding, nor promoting criminal activity; our business lives have nothing to do with our membership of this club," insists one Fink as he shows SA Weekend through his new warehouse. Some Finks have taken an even higher-profile approach. When Rann threatened to run every bikie out of South Australia, Finks life member Robbie White protested by having "The Finks" tattooed across his throat. Now he's gone further & covered half of his face with a tribal motif. "It's an anthropological experiment," he says. "I want to be able to gauge people's reactions to me. I want them to know I am a Fink through & through but that no matter how I look, there is no reason to fear me." The recent daacetene in bikie land doesn't mean they will suddenly conform, but they argue they can be pro-community. The FREE Australia party has been investigating allegations of child sex abuse & murder based on the confessions of a pedophile in custody in South Australia. Even as the anti-bikie squad has been applying pressure to FREE members, the group has been prepared to give qualified assistance to the Major Crime squad, handing over potentially important evidence & providing statements. Clubs, such as the Gypsy Jokers & Descendants, that dictate that members meet a minimum number of days in the saddle are more stable than those that don't. Clubs that have successfully banned members from using or selling crystal methamphetamine are in better shape too. Discipline will be the key to survival. Mackie is cautiously optimistic that bikie clubs will survive this latest attempt to rub them out, but adds they must recognise times have changed. They were happy to wear the outlaw tag to build their own legend, but it has outlived its usefulness. "What was acceptable 30 years ago may not be today," he says. "We need to redefine & return to the values that created the clubs in the first place."

**Man sought in fatal shooting** – Feb 14, 2009 – *Michigan* - By Christy Arboscello- Van Buren Township police tonight are searching for a 36-year-old man for questioning about the Friday murder of a resident. The man, who is white, 5-foot-10 & 160 pounds, has "GOBE" tattooed on the left side of his neck & "1%" on the right side of his neck, police said. He was last seen at approximately 6:30 p.m. Friday, police said. At around the same time, Loring Glen Case, 46, was gunned down in his driveway at the 600 block of Savage Road, police said. It is unknown where the man sought for questioning could be at this time & what means of transportation he may be using. Police have not ruled out that he is traveling by motorcycle because they speculate his neck tattoos have meaning with bikers. "I think it's reference to a biker gang, but we haven't been able to figure that out," Sgt. Mike Papin said tonight. A neighbor notified police Friday of several gunshots fired outside Case's house. When officers arrived, they found Case, who apparently had just returned from work in Detroit, lying in the driveway. His family was inside the home, but did not witness the crime.

**Man charged in fatal shooting** – Feb 14, 2009 – *South Carolina* - A North Carolina man charged with murder in connection with a fatal shooting last year was extradited to his home state to face other charges, according to jail officials. Jerry Junior Hill, 28, of Bolivia, is charged with fatally shooting 29-year-old Echoe Bellamy of Longs, while Bellamy was out with family & friends on July 28, 2008. Hill later turned himself into police. Hill was being held without bond at J. Reuben Long Detention Center. Police said Bellamy was killed in the parking lot of the Knight Riders MC at 2001 Star Bluff Road in Longs. Police said Bellamy was involved in a fight inside the club that continued outside. Horry County Coroner Bob Edge said Bellamy died from multiple

gunshot wounds. In 2005, Hill was given 3 years probation in Brunswick County for possession of a firearm by a felon.

**Romance & chili** – Feb 15, 2009 – *Minnesota* - By Rae Kruger - The couple stood outside the Lyndwood in Lynd Sat night while one of them used a cell phone. The smell of chili wafted in the air as the door to the bar & ballroom opened & closed. It was Valentine's Day night & the night of the annual ABATE chili feed fund-raiser. ABATE is American Bikers for Awareness Training & Education. "I'm thrilled," Gena Yearous of Balaton said with a laugh. "Mr. Romance is taking me to the ABATE chili feed for Valentine's Day." Her "Mr. Romance" is Donnie Adams of Balaton. And truth be told, Yearous didn't really mind being at the chili feed, because she was with Adams. And he'd taken her to dinner the night before. Adams is a long-time motorcycle enthusiast but just got back into the hobby. "I gave it up when the kids were little," Adams said. "You've got to buy diapers...and it's bye-bye bike." For now, Yearous is a "yes & no" bike enthusiast. "I'm not into riding a standard bike. It's got to have a couch. If I'm going, it's got to be comfortable." Adams said a three-wheeled or tricycle motorcycle was likely to be Yearous' choice of bikes & probably his in the future. Adams & Yearous weren't the only couple at the annual fund-raiser. The chili feed, silent auction & dance drew several hundred attendees. The fund-raiser earns money for various education programs & charities supported by the Buffalo Ridge Chapter of ABATE. ABATE chapters educate riders on motorcycle safety & educate the public to encourage more awareness of motorcycle use & safety. Chapters also donate to various charities in their regions. "I'm surprised at the crowd. A lot of people turned out for it," Debra Holston of Wilmington, Del. said. This was Holston's first chili feed. She met her friend & fellow motorcycle rider Jim Holien on a biker cruise in Nov. "I came for the romance & the chili," Holston said. Where else would people want to be on Valentine's Day, Holien asked. "No where else but here," Holien said in response to his own question. The thing about the chili feed, is you don't have to be motorcycle rider to attend, ABATE chapter president Dave Herzog said. "Our biggest asset is the community of Marshall & the surrounding area," Holien said. "We've just got a lot of support from people." Julie Nelson & her husband Vernon & her brother-in-law Val & sister-in-law Betty Nelson, knew it was Valentine's Day when they planned to again attend the chili feed, she said. "This is a good place to spend Valentine's Day," Julie Nelson said. "We can spend it with friends & family." Later, Betty Nelson said, they'd go back to her house for Valentine's cake. A table or 2 away, Jolynn Norstegard of Tracy & Robert Lemburg of Lynd sat beside each other. The couple didn't plan on attending Sat night. "It's always good. We try to go when we can," Lemburg said. But they forgot this year, & although it was Valentine's Day, it was a busy day & they had no plans for the night. "This was spur of the moment," Lemburg said. They were eating good chili & they were content, the couple said. That's the attraction, the reason so many attend, Val VanderWeyst of Benson said. VanderWeyst is an member of her local ABATE chapter. "Valentine's Day is about getting together with people you love," VanderWeyst said. She was sitting at a table with people she loved. "I came down here to see friends & spend time together," VanderWeyst said. "We came to laugh, joke. People came from all over to see each other."

**Idleness is the stupidity** of the body, & stupidity is the idleness of the mind. - Johann G. Seume

**Remember men**, if your lady doesn't find you handsome, she should at least find you handy.- Red Green

**Council may renew Bike Night ordinance** – Feb 15, 2009 – *Iowa* - By Aaron W. Jaco - Indianola City Council members may renew, for the third year, an ordinance that requires anyone who sells food or merchandise on public property within Indianola city limits on the day of a motorcycle event to pay \$200 to a private group of organizers. Council members on Feb. 2 gave preliminary approval to the “Indianola Bike Night Ordinance,” which leaders say is designed to deter activities that could disrupt bike nights or endanger their participants. The ordinance was first passed in 2007. Violations are punishable as a simple misdemeanor offense — which carry a maximum 30 days in jail & \$500 fine — or with a city fine. Pete Berry, a city councilman, said Feb. 4 he thought the ordinance took effect at “about 5:15 (p.m.)” during motorcycle events & pertained only to the town square & one block in all directions. “I’ve been involved with this for years,” Berry said. “When they shut it down like that usually it’s just The Square & a block in each way.” But the ordinance does not specify a geographic area or time period for the ordinance, other than the “city of Indianola” on the day of a bike night. “Technically (the ordinance) probably does” apply to the whole city for the whole day, City Attorney John Hoyman said. However, the intent of the ordinance is to organize vendors for the duration of bike nights, which run from 6 to 10 p.m. Bike Down to I-Town is a monthly event during the summer that typically draws an estimated 5,000 motorcyclists to the 4 streets surrounding the Warren County Courthouse. This year’s events are set for April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17, Aug. 21 & Sept. 18. Supporters of Indianola is a three-person nonprofit group composed of Brad Ross, regional manager of Cemen Tech & owner of Buggy Bath Car Wash in Indianola; Randy Gathers, an Indianola city councilman & owner of Country Kitchen in Indianola; & Kevin Halterman, president & CEO of Peoples Bank & treasurer of the Indianola Country Club. Gathers abstained when the ordinance was discussed Feb. 2. “Bike Night is better off if it has a central organization with lots of communication & it’s held downtown,” Hoyman said. “We don’t want it to string out all over town with vendors on street corners, in parking lots, in parks & other places. We want it all to be downtown so that it’s easy to put on that kind of party & it’s easy to organize it & easy to control it.” The ordinance is modeled after a similar document passed for the Register’s Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa, or RAGBRAI, Hoyman said. City leaders predict RAGBRAI could draw more than 5 times as many people to Indianola as a typical bike night when the ride makes an overnight stop Tuesday, July 21. The proposed bike night ordinance would also require vendors to be insured for \$1 million & name Supporters of Indianola & the city of Indianola as additional insured parties. Business owners who wanted to sell their typical merchandise in front of their shops during bike nights would not be required to pay vendor fees — although the ordinance does not explicitly contain that exemption, Hoyman said. Halterman, a bike night organizer, said he did not expect groups who did not conflict with his event to get permission from or pay Supporters of Indianola. Councilman Bob Kreamer had not seen any problems with the ordinance & its enforcement. “This is not designed to shut down all community functions & commerce that might occur on public property,” Kreamer said. “If people started to try to enforce this on an overreaching basis, that’s when the council has to revisit the thing ... There would be a hard time convincing me a (Girl) Scout cookie sale in the morning or even in the afternoon of bike night would be an infringement.”

**If a man is talking in the woods** & there is no woman to hear him, is he still wrong? – SOS Maki

**Bikies to mass in Gawler to fight SA Gov’t** - Feb 16, 2009 – *Australia* - By Ben Harry & Michael McGuire - Outlaw motorcycle gangs will mass in Gawler for their biggest gathering yet in a defiant show of strength against the State Gov’t’s new anti-bikie laws. Hundreds of bikers, from all chapters of the state’s feared outlaw motorcycle clubs, including the Hells Angels, Finks, Rebels & Descendants, are expected to conduct a mass ride through the Barossa Valley on March 14 in the Gypsy Jokers’ annual poker run. “We will all come together & we will all unite,” one member of the Gypsy Jokers said yesterday. And he said the bikie clubs would continue to fight State Gov’t laws which could make membership of motorcycle clubs illegal if the Gov’t declared them to be criminal gangs. “No matter what, we will still be around, we will be in jail if that’s what it means,” he said. Premier Mike Rann dismissed the apparent harmony between the traditional rivals as a “stunt” & said the clubs could “protest or squirm as much as they like”. “As for claims they’re being united, the last time claims were made by apologists for the bikies that they were being united by our tough laws, it was no time before they were shooting & stabbing each other again,” Rann said. Alerted to the meeting by The Advertiser, Police Assistant Commissioner Tony Harrison said it was “very unusual” for rival clubs to co-operate on this kind of event. “We would treat any matter such as this from a road safety perspective & if it requires policing it will be policed,” he said. The gathering has been dubbed the Freedom of Association Protest Poker Run, & it is the first time different clubs, many of them long-time enemies, will ride together. The run has been sparked by the State Gov’t’s Serious & Organized Crime (Control) Act, which came into force late last year. Under the Act, Police Commissioner Mal Hyde can ask the State Gov’t to “declare” a bikie gang a proscribed organization, making it possible for individual members to face harsh sanctions if they associate or communicate with one another. The Finks is the first club to be subject to the law & Attorney-General Michael Atkinson is expected to announce his decision within the month on whether it will be made illegal. If the decision is handed down before March 14, the poker run could be the first serious test of the Gov’t’s new laws, although there is a provision in the Act that protects the right to “participate in advocacy, protest, dissent or industrial action”. The run is not the first act of unity between the clubs, which have formed the Free Australia Party to oppose the new laws. The Advertiser’s new magazine, SA Weekend, also revealed outlaw clubs had been meeting to set aside differences & to work together to fight the State Gov’t. It is expected the clubs could eventually take their challenge to the new laws all the way to the High Court. Descendants MC Pres Tom Mackie said his members were committed to fighting the Gov’t. “We’re going to ride like we always have,” he said. The poker run leaves from the Old Spot Hotel in Gawler & traditionally receives significant police attention. But Mackie predicted authorities might take a different approach this year, due to the vastly increased numbers. “It may alter the way they treat us,” he said. “Normally they jump all over these kinds of things & try to intimidate people. But that may change if they know all the clubs are coming. “It may get worse – or for all we know they might step back & not do a goddamn thing. We think it’s wise to resist right from the get-go.”

**When you apply for Welfare in Mexico** what does that Gov’t give you? Answer - A map of the United States...

**The New Phone Number** For The White House Will Be: Foe Foe Fie- Nie Nie Sebin - Foe Sebin - Foe Foe...

**Premier defends anti-gang laws** – Feb 16, 2009 - *Australia* - Premier Mike Rann says a planned protest against anti-bikie gang legislation is a sign that the South Australian Gov't is doing the right thing. An open invitation to be part of a protest at Gawler next month has been published online. Rann says he is not opposed to the planned event but doubts it will drum-up support for the motorbike riders's cause. "We're dealing with people who are major criminals - the fact that these major criminals do not like our legislation makes me feel better about ourselves & what we're doing," he said. Rann says he does not expect law-abiding people to get involved in any protest. "They're sick & tired of shoot-outs in our cities, sick & tired of bombings, sick & tired of these bikie gangs trying to sell drugs to our kids so we're making a stand against criminals," he said. "If people are honest, decent citizens & ride motorbikes, they've got nothing to fear but if they're involved in crimes, we're coming after them."

**Religious divide drives bikie war** - Feb 16, 2009 - *Australia* - An Ancient religious enmity is at the centre of a new conflict in the Sydney bikie scene, with a new gang comprised mainly of Sunni Muslims warring with a group of bikies with a Shiite Muslim background. While detectives continue to investigate the February 4 bombing of a Hells Angels clubhouse in Crystal Street, Petersham, police & other sources are indicating that the city chapter of the Comanchero is involved in an escalating feud with a new club, Notorious. The Pres of Notorious is a Lebanese-Australian with a long-standing association with a bikie from a colourful Sydney Sunni Lebanese family. The 2 are among Sydney's original "Nike" bikies - sporting white sneakers, fashionable T-shirts & clean-shaven instead of the traditional boots, dirty vests & bushy beards - & both are from Sunni families from Sydney's west. Notorious is considered by gang squad detectives to be the prime suspect in the Crystal Street bombing. One of its mottos is "Only the dead see the end of war" & its "colours", or coat of arms, is a turbaned skeleton holding twin pistols with "Original Gangster" beneath it. Today is the first time the club's colours have been revealed publicly. On the other side of the conflict is the president of the Comanchero City Crew, a Beirut-born Shiite who grew up in the St George area. Comanchero has been one of the motorcycle gangs that have embraced the new breed of "Nike" bikie, & have been recruiting from the Lebanese & Islander communities for several years. Traditionally, Lebanese Muslim migrants to Sydney have been geographically & religiously divided. The Sunni majority live in Sydney's west & south-west, mainly around Auburn & Bankstown, while the Shiite minority live in the St George area. "The 2 groups have no love lost between them," a senior police source told the Herald. They have been fighting since the Sunni bikie, one of Sydney's most well-known gangsters, became president of the Nomads Parramatta chapter in the late 1990s. In 2006, he was jailed over a Newcastle shooting. The following year, the Parramatta chapter's Granville headquarters was bombed, allegedly by the Comanchero, & the chapter subsequently disbanded. A few of its members formed Notorious, probably at the request of the Sunni bikie. "[The Sunni bikie] left the Nomads while he was on remand," said an investigator who has watched the 2 groups for years. "He was telling people he was planning to start up his own club. Around about the same time, Notorious appeared." Unlike the Sunni bikie & the Notorious president, the Comanchero City Crew president was born in Beirut & grew up in Sydney's southern suburbs. He appeared on television in 2005 following the Cronulla riot & Maroubra reprisal violence, when he met members of the Bra Boys to calm tensions. When the Herald asked the president of the Hells Angels city chapter about the bombing, he was succinct:

"I've got nothing to say, thank you." But bikie sources said the Angels believe Notorious may be responsible for the attack, which closed down Crystal Street for a day & damaged 7 neighboring businesses. Neither police nor the Hells Angels have established why Notorious may have attacked the club, though the senior police source offered a simple answer: "They're just bloody crazy." In the latest violence, a Comanchero member was shot in the leg when he was confronted by 5 Hells Angels at a park in Silverwater on Feb 7.

**Police Bust Local Meth Lab** – Feb 16, 2009 - *Michigan* - One man is in custody & other arrests may follow after police say they busted a meth lab just south of Lansing. Officers from the Tri-County Metro Narcotics Squad & Michigan State Police Emergency Response Team raided a residence in Delhi Township early Friday morning. They say they found a working meth lab with tanks containing nearly 40 pounds of anhydrous ammonia. That's a dangerous but necessarily ingredient in making meth. Officers say they found other meth-making material. It took a licensed hazardous materials company to help clean up the scene. Police say the lab was run by members of a group called the Highwaymen MC. Despite the bust, they say the investigation continues & more arrests are possible.

**B.C. adds 168 officers to gangs** – Feb 16, 2009 – *Canada* - The B.C. Gov't has declared war on B.C. gangs by adding 168 new police specialists & 10 extra prosecutors to combat the rampant gunplay played out almost daily on Metro Vancouver streets. And Premier Gordon Campbell said Friday 2 new 16-member anti-gang units will be dispatched to Kelowna & Prince George to deal with gangsters who have moved into those communities & set up shop. Campbell said the new police resources will almost double the number of officers dedicated to battling organized crime in B.C. to 368 at a cost of \$69 million over 3 years.

**A Michigan State trooper** pulled a car over on US 23 about 2 miles north of the Michigan/Indiana State line. When the trooper asked the driver why he was speeding, the driver said he was a Magician & Juggler & was on his way to Ft. Wayne, IN to do a show at the Shrine Circus. He didn't want to be late. The trooper told the driver he was fascinated by juggling & asked if the driver would do a little juggling for him then he wouldn't give him a ticket. He told the trooper he had sent his equipment ahead & didn't have anything to juggle. The trooper said he had some flares in the trunk & asked if he could juggle them. The juggler said he could, so the trooper got 5 flares, lit them & handed them to him. While the man was juggling, a car pulled in behind the patrol car. A drunken good old boy from Michigan got out, watched the performance, then went over to the patrol car, opened the rear door & got in. The trooper observed him & went over to the patrol car, opened the door asking the drunk what he thought he was doing. The drunk replied, 'You might as well take my ass to jail, cause there ain't no way I can pass that test.'

**Ted Nugent, rock star & avid bow hunter** from Michigan, was being interviewed by a French journalist, an animal rights activist. The discussion came around to deer hunting. The journalist asked, 'What do you think is the last thought in the mind of a deer before you shoot him? Is it, 'Are you my friend?' or is it 'Are you the one who killed my brother?' Nugent replied, 'Deer aren't capable of that kind of abstract thought. All they care about is, what am I going to eat next, who am I going to screw next & can I run fast enough to get away. In most ways, they are very much like the French.'

**Hells Angels sues Visalia woman in Internet case** - Feb. 17, 2009 – *California* - By John Ellis; The Fresno Bee - In days gone by, the Hells Angels seemed to follow a legal code not found in any American law book. Anyone who crossed it would face judgment in shades of black & blue. Now, the famed & feared motorcycle club is seeking a more refined path to justice: It is suing a Visalia woman in federal court, alleging “cyberpiracy” & trademark infringement. The club says Fawn Myers illegally registered more than 20 Internet domain names associated with the Hells Angels & then placed them up for auction on eBay. Myers, the club says, registered domain names such as ha-mc.com & 81ca.com through the Internet hosting service GoDaddy.com, which is also named in the suit. It was filed this month in U.S. District Court in Fresno. The number 81, the suit says, has not only long been an identifier & pseudonym for the Hells Angels, but it also has been used on licensed merchandise such as hats, beanies, bikinis, pins & belt buckles. The letter “H” is the eighth in the alphabet; the letter “A” the first. In her eBay listings, the club alleges, Myers specifically mentions the association of the domain names with the motorcycle club. The club says that amounts to trademark infringement & cyberpiracy, among other violations of federal law. The Hells Angels is showing no mercy in its legal demands. The motorcycle club wants a court judgment that Myers violated its rights under federal & state statutes. It wants the domain names to be transferred to the club. And they want any profits derived from the domain names, as well as \$100,000 in damages for each domain name found to belong to the club. One legal expert thinks the Hells Angels might have a good case. David Welkowitz, an expert in trademark law at the Whittier Law School in Southern California, said lawsuits such as the one filed by the Hells Angels are common -- as are victories for the trademark owners. Welkowitz said the key question is whether Myers has any legitimate claim to the domain names, & whether she can withstand a federal cybersquatting statute & prove she didn’t make a “bad faith attempt to profit” from the domain names’ association with the Hells Angels. “Putting it on eBay is not going to help you,” he said. Fawn Myers could not be reached for comment, but a man who answered her home telephone number said the case isn’t as clear-cut as the court file makes it appear. Terry Myers declined to say how he is related to Fawn, but he said he registered the domain names, not Fawn. And he said there is no way he can fight the Hells Angels. “I have no money to defend this,” he said. “They’re going to win in court.” The suit, filed by Sacramento attorney Fritz Clapp, claims Fawn Myers registered the domain names within the past year, using GoDaddy.com as the registrar. GoDaddy did not return a call seeking comment. This month, the domain names were offered for sale on eBay, with titles & descriptions emphasizing that they signified the Hells Angels & were valuable because of that association. Prices ranged from about \$100 to \$10,000. The Hells Angels, the suit says, immediately notified eBay & Fawn Myers that the domain names violated the motorcycle club’s rights; eBay stopped the auctions. Fawn Myers, however, relisted & continued to offer the names for sale through GoDaddy.com, according to the suit. Terry Myers said he is willing to give up ownership to all the domain names & turn them over to the Hells Angels. He said he called Clapp with the offer but never heard back. Clapp could not be reached for comment. Myers wonders who the motorcycle club might seek out next. He said the domain name hamc.org belongs to the Hebrew Academy of Morris County in New Jersey, while the name hamc.com belongs to the Heart of America Medical Center in Rugby, N.D.

**Do not mess** with the forces of Nature, for thou art small & biodegradable!

**Girl with leukemia gets help from MC** – Feb 17, 2009 – *California* – By Linda Immediato - Nine-year old Kaitlyn Blount received some unlikely visitors on Valentine’s Day. More than a dozen leather-clad, tattooed bikers thundered up her street on flashy, oversized chrome & steel Harley’s, to meet with the child & her family for a gathering on the family’s front lawn in Porterville. The bikers, from biker club Ching-A-Ling Nomads & the bike repair shop Moonshine Cycle, are sponsoring an event in April to raise money to help pay Kaitlyn’s medical bills. She was diagnosed with leukemia in Oct 2008. Once a week the Oak Grove Elementary third grader has to go to Children’s Hospital Central California in Madera for chemotherapy & radiation treatments. She had received a treatment the day before & wasn’t feeling very well on Saturday. She only spent a few minutes meeting her sponsors before having to go inside to take a nap. “She’s sweet & shy, & a bit overwhelmed by a bunch of guys in leather,” said Chuck “Hellboy” Keele. Keele is the community liaison for Ching-A-Ling Nomads. “We wanted to do something for our community. We wanted to help out a child anyway we can.” Last year the group helped raise money for a woman who had been diagnosed with cancer & this year, they wanted to help a child. Fortunately, Kaitlyn’s aunt, Melissa Boland, was in the right place at the right time. Boland was meeting with friend Richard Horn. She mentioned she was going to visit her niece who had just gotten home from a chemotherapy treatment. Horn knew that Ching-A-Ling Nomads were looking to sponsor a child, & put Boland in touch with the biker club. The next day the bikers contacted Kaitlyn’s parent’s, her mom Michelle & stepfather Shane Sisk. The bikers have put together their 2nd Annual Bike Blessing, an event that includes a blessing & barbecue, games, raffles, live music, kid’s activities, & of course, tattoos. The event, which starts at 11 a.m. April 18, will take place at Moonshine Cycle, 1309 A S. Main St., Porterville. All proceeds will be donated to Kaitlyn. “I was shocked when I heard they wanted to help,” Michelle Sisk said. “They were all so nice. They have such big hearts.” The Sisks have 9 children combined, all but one from previous marriages - a classic “Brady Bunch” situation. Unlike her siblings, Kaitlyn is currently home-schooled until she is medically cleared by her doctors. “She gets sick after treatment. Her stomach will hurt & it can last a couple days to a week,” Michelle said. “The Valley Children’s Hospital has been amazing, very helpful,” Shane said. So far Kaitlyn is responding to the treatments & beating the disease. “Kaitlyn is a bubbly girl who likes everybody. She’s a real girly-girl. And she’s tough,” her mother said. “Tougher than us adults,” Shane said. When Kaitlyn first started losing her blond curly locks it didn’t even phase her, her mother said. The little girl loves playing with Barbie dolls, had picked out her own wig, a long blond one. “She just shrugged & said, ‘I got my wig’,” Michelle said.

**We all know that Charlie loves** to go to bars & party. He also likes to have his way with the ladies. Charlie was sitting in a bar; absolutely drooling at a pretty young thing in her short, pink mini dress. Charlie loves going after pretty ladies & he considers himself quite smooth. Charlie sends her a drink. “How lucky am I,” he thinks, as she gets up to come sit next to him. They strike up a wonderful conversation. Finally the girl turns to him & says, “Look, you seem like a really nice guy, so I have to tell you that I’m a working girl. I get \$ 200 for what you think you’ll ply out of me with liquor.” Charlie replies, “I have no problem with the money but, since you were so straightforward I must tell you that when I come, I go nuts. I bite, scratch, kick, punch, pull hair, break furniture, & just plain destroy the place.” “Oh my Gosh! How long does that last?” she asked. “Just until I get my \$ 200 back.”

## **Zulus club head says members helped to save stab victim's life**

– Feb 17, 2009 – *Ohio* – By Cindy Leise - The head of the Lorain County Zulus MC said club members should be credited with saving the life of Dexter Fields, who was stabbed in the neck Sat outside the club, & that the club should not be accused of being a nuisance. Zulus Pres Ed “Big D” Madara said the club can’t be responsible for what happens outside the private clubhouse. He said neither Fields nor Adrian E. Smith, 18, of Elyria, the man accused of stabbing him, were inside the club before the stabbing, which occurred shortly before 4 a.m. Sat. “We do not accept fighting,” Madara said. “If we sense there is a problem, we will ask them to leave.” Everyone is searched & swiped with a metal detector before entering the club, he said. Fields, 21, of Elyria, remained in serious condition Monday at MetroHealth Medical Center, according to a nursing supervisor. Smith, who was charged with felonious assault, remained in Elyria City Jail on \$15,000 bond Monday night & was to appear in a 10 a.m. arraignment today in Elyria Municipal Court. His mother, Jovanna M. Smith, 41, was charged with obstructing official business, according to a police report. **Not a bar:** Madara said the club, which is not a bar, but offers pop, juice & food, as well as music for its members & their friends, plans to be more selective about who can enter. Liquor is not served to outsiders, & the club focuses on positive activities such as toy & food collections for the needy, he said. The incidents Sat were upsetting to members, according to Madara, who said club VP Edward “E.G.” Raiford & club member Dan Westlake should be credited with helping to save Fields. Raiford said he was covered with blood when he helped stem the flow of blood from Fields’ neck. “A nurse in the crowd said, ‘Get something to put on his neck,’ & I pulled off my shirt & threw it to her, & she applied pressure,” Raiford said. About that time, some shots were fired along Broad Street, so club members hustled the wounded man into the club, nearly tossing him into the lap of Zulus member Dan Westlake. “I was holding the shirt onto his neck,” Westlake said. Madara said Fields has reportedly visited the club in the past & has never been a problem. **A ‘nuisance’?** The attack on Fields was one of 2 that occurred within minutes of each other outside the club Saturday. There is a chance they were unrelated, & police do not know who fired an estimated 6 gunshots, according to Elyria police Lt. Andy Eichenlaub. The incidents led Elyria Police Patrolmen’s Association President Tom Baracskai to say he thought the club had become a nuisance, because people stay downtown & move along to the club after bars close at 2:30 a.m. According to Baracskai, a crowd again gathered on Broad Street after the bars closed early Sunday but dispersed when 8 to 10 police officers began checking IDs. But while officers are focusing on unruly crowds downtown, they can’t be patrolling elsewhere or respond quickly to other calls, Baracskai said. County Prosecutor Dennis Will said state law allows authorities to seek an injunction to close businesses deemed to be nuisances for up to a year. In 2005, that happened to Rock’s Down Under Night Club at 425 Broad St., which was declared a nuisance in 2005 & boarded up, Elyria police Lt. Andy Eichenlaub said. Madara said the club will resist any attempt to declare it a nuisance. If need be, the club will hire an atty to assert its right to operate, he said. **Second incident:** A police report said that a second man injured Saturday, Antwain Dovante Blake, 20, of Lorain, told officers he was going into the club when he saw numerous men who did not like him because he is from Lorain. He said he was struck from behind, punched & kicked, & one of the men cut his hand with a knife. Blake’s left eye was nearly swollen shut, he had numerous abrasions on his face & head & a large, deep cut to a finger, according to the report. He also was flown to MetroHealth, treated & released. The beating of Blake involved several people, & he was kicked &

punched, Eichenlaub said. Eichenlaub said the former Zulus clubhouse at 237 W. Bridge St. was the site of at least 2 large fights in the 1990s. In one of those incidents, shots were fired, he said. Police records staff return to work today following the President’s Day weekend & will begin compiling information on incidents at the club’s current location, Eichenlaub said. David “D.C.” Caver, owner of The Toy Box bar next to the Zulus, said the Street Soldiers motorcycle club, which meets at his bar, has an “excellent” rapport with the Zulus. He said the bar & club work hard to self-police their establishments. “A lot of times it isn’t easy to keep the riff-raff out,” he said.

**NSW to act against bikie gang violence** – Feb 17, 2009 – *Australia* - By Dylan Welch & Geesche Jacobsen - The NSW Police Minister is to submit a plan to the cabinet following a request by the Police Commissioner to rein in Sydney’s wave of bikie violence. In the most definite sign yet that the Government is planning to tighten the screws on the state’s 21 outlaw motorcycle clubs, the Police Minister, Tony Kelly, said he would look at emulating some of South Australia’s recent anti-bikie laws. The South Australian legislation, introduced last year, has tried to outlaw the clubs & make it illegal for anyone to meet bikies more than 5 times a year. “We won’t tolerate the outlaw motorcycle gangs committing violence in the streets,” Mr Kelly said. The announcement comes at the same time as a group of senior NSW bikies called for an unprecedented meeting of every club in the state to prepare a defence against legislative attack. The decision to act comes after Kelly was handed a preliminary report by the Police Commissioner, Andrew Scipione, in a meeting on Mon. The report requested further legislative power to combat a recent upsurge in club violence around Sydney. The recent shooting war between the Rebels & the Bandidos, as well as the bombing of a Hells Angels’ clubhouse in Petersham this month, is understood to be the catalyst for the push for legislative action. But the move will be met with stiff resistance by the clubs & their supporters. The SA legislation has been described as draconian & reminiscent of the McCarthy era by civil libertarians & the South Australian Law Society. The laws, which have not yet been fully implemented, will be challenged in the High Court. In an open letter from the NSW clubs yesterday, they said they planned to resist any curbs strenuously. The letter called for at least 2 members of every chapter of every club in NSW - potentially hundreds of bikies from more than 20 clubs - to come to the yet-to-be planned meeting. That would represent one of the biggest gatherings of outlaw motorcycle club members Australia has ever seen. “This meeting will be neutral for all concerned - no issues, attitudes or grievances past or present should be brought up,” the letter read. A copy of the letter was also distributed among Queensland club members. A bikie gang expert & author, Professor Arthur Veno of Monash University, said he was not surprised that the Government had decided to act, saying the NSW bikie scene was “extremely volatile” at the moment. But he believed legislation was the wrong approach. “My take is the big blue gang [the police] better get in there & kick some ass, to put it very bluntly,” he said. “Legislation is pointless, it just gets the civil libertarians offside.”

**As men age,** we start seeing more & more of the medical world & its employees, which nowadays seems to have more & more women as our Physicians & Therapists ETC. & in this case a new Urologist for me. My family Doctor just recently referred me to a just out of medical school female urologist. I saw her yesterday, & she’s absolutely drop-dead gorgeous as well as unbelievably sexy. She told me that I must stop masturbating. I asked her why, & she said, “Because I’m trying to examine you.....”

**Despite Obama call for open Gov't, Justice resists disclosing Bush secrets** – Feb 17, 2009 – *Washington, DC* – By Michael J. Sniffen; AP - The Justice Dept is resisting pressure to release documents the Bush administration kept secret about domestic wiretapping, data collection on travelers & U.S. citizens, & interrogation of suspected terrorists. In half a dozen lawsuits, Justice lawyers are defending Bush administration decisions to withhold records from the public. They have opposed formal motions or spurned out-of-court offers to merely delay these cases until the new administration rewrites Freedom of Information Act guidelines & decides whether the new rules might allow the public to see more. In only one case has the Justice Dept agreed to suspend a FOIA lawsuit until the disputed documents can be re-evaluated under the yet-to-be-written guidelines. That case involves negotiations on an anti-counterfeiting treaty, not the more controversial, secret anti-terrorism tactics that spawned the other lawsuits as well as Obama's promises of greater openness. "The signs in the last few days are not entirely encouraging," said Jameel Jaffer, an attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, which filed several lawsuits seeking the Bush administration's legal justification for warrantless domestic wiretapping & for its treatment of terrorism detainees. The documents sought in these lawsuits "are in many cases the documents that the public most needs to see," Jaffer said. "It makes no sense to say that these documents are somehow exempt from President Obama's directives." Groups that advocate open government, civil liberties & privacy were overjoyed that Obama on his first day in office reversed the FOIA policy imposed by Bush's first attorney general, John Ashcroft. The Bush Justice Department said it would use any legitimate legal argument to defend withholding records from the public. Obama pledged "an unprecedented level of openness in government" & ordered new FOIA guidelines written with a "presumption in favor of disclosure." But Justice's actions in courts since then have cast doubt on how far the new administration will go. In a FOIA case seeking access to the FBI's rules for using its Investigative Data Warehouse — a computer database containing 1 billion searchable documents about Americans & foreigners - Justice lawyers told a district court here Thursday, "It is not clear that the new guidelines, once issued, will be retrospective to FOIA requests that the agency already has finished processing." They asked the court to rule instead that the FBI has done enough by reviewing 878 pages, withholding 76 & releasing some portions of 802. The FBI withheld some material on the basis of discretionary FOIA exemptions & ones that require balancing privacy & public interests. David Sobel, attorney for the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a San Francisco-based group that advocates civil liberties in cyberspace & brought the lawsuit, said those decisions might come out differently under the new guidelines. The issue isn't retroactivity, Sobel said. "The issue is whether the new administration is going to devote legal resources to fighting old battles now that the president has announced a fundamental change in the government's approach to FOIA." Other lawsuits in which Justice's civil division has expressed opposition to delays until the administration writes its FOIA guidelines & uses them to review Bush decisions:

- A case seeking documents about the Automated Targeting System used by Customs officers to screen all travelers leaving or entering the country.
- A case seeking records of lobbying by telecommunications companies to get legal immunity for cooperating in warrantless domestic wiretapping.
- A case seeking Justice's legal opinions justifying that wire-tapping. One of the plaintiff attorneys, Meredith Fuchs, of the National Security Archive, a private group that publishes

formerly classified government documents, said, "I'm somewhat surprised they did not take the opportunity to look at these again, but maybe it's because the administration doesn't have all its top Justice appointees in office yet."

- Three cases seeking Justice legal opinions about detention & interrogation of terrorism detainees. Civil division atty Caroline Wolverton wrote the ACLU's Jaffer that Justice would proceed "consistent with the principles" in Obama's FOIA order "and also with due regard for the legitimate confidentiality interests of the executive branch & the Nat'l security interests of the United States."

Jaffer called that "a non-response response." So far, Justice has expressed willingness to review Bush decisions in two cases, only one because of FOIA changes. Only in Sobel's lawsuit for anti-counterfeiting treaty documents has Justice joined a plaintiff to obtain a court delay to give the administration time to write FOIA guidelines & use them to "review its determinations on the documents at issue." But that case is unusual because Justice is represented by its Office of Information & Privacy, not by the civil division which handles all the other FOIA lawsuits. The information & privacy office provides Gov't-wide guidance on how to obey the FOIA. Attorneys in these FOIA cases worry that the information & privacy office doesn't have the clout of the much larger civil division & may not control administration policy. The civil division has sought a delay to review one case — involving three 2005 Justice legal memos on the definition of "cruel & unusual" interrogation tactics. But its request didn't mention the new FOIA policy. Instead it said Obama's Jan. 22 executive order on detention & interrogation might alter the government position. Even if the new administration reviews Bush decisions, there's no guarantee it will reach different decisions. Last week, Attorney General Eric Holder announced a review of every court case in which the Bush administration invoked the state secrets privilege, a separate legal tool it used to have lawsuits thrown out rather than reveal secrets. The same day, however, civil division attorney Douglas Letter cited that privilege in asking an appeals court to uphold dismissal of a suit accusing a Boeing Co. subsidiary of illegally helping the CIA fly suspected terrorists to allied foreign nations that tortured them. Letter said that Obama officials approved his argument.

**Liverpool Police Integrity -- Underbelly** – Feb 17, 2009 – *Australia* - By Jumping Joe - Two Liverpool detectives are under investigation for alleged links to bikie gangs & extortion. The officers were suspended following a raid by members of the corruption watchdog commission. Operation Lantana will investigate allegations of serious misconduct & criminal activity. This will be a blow to the Liverpool Police as they have been working very hard on working for the community & this set back makes that job only harder for the existing policemen & women. Bikie gangs have been able to operate for too long across NSW & in particular in the West & the crackdown will hopefully be finally send a message. Make a honest living like everybody else. This is straight out of TV Underbelly which is frightening.

#### **Proof that Men Have Better Friends:**

**Friendship among Women:** A woman didn't come home one night. The next morning she told her husband that she had slept over at a friend's house. The man called his wife's 10 best friends. None of them knew anything about it.

**Friendship among Men:** A man didn't come home one night. The next morning he told his wife that he had slept over at a friend's house. The woman called her husband's 10 best friends. Eight confirmed that he had slept over, & 2 said he was still there.

**Bikers hit the hope highway** – Feb 17, 2009 - *New Zealand* - By Michelle Lotter - Clad in black leather, they ride motorcycles & wear patches. But these bikers are on a mission from God. Here comes the Christian Motorcyclist Association of New Zealand, delivering the good news on motorbikes. Gearing up for the association's charity fund-raiser Run for the Son are Santelle & Boetie Van der Westhuizen who recently migrated from South Africa where the association is going strong. "Normally people know bikers as drinkers," Mrs Van der Westhuizen says. "We're spreading the word of God." The non-profit association has members in parts of the United States, Africa, Europe & Australia & is believed to be larger than the Hells Angels, she says. In South Africa the Mairangi Bay couple belonged to a "bikers' church" where the congregation could turn up in leathers & place their helmets in a designated space during the service. One churchgoer was even known to drink spirits through a straw from a small flask in his jacket during services, Van der Westhuizen says. "Many of us were in their shoes many years ago." Van der Westhuizen, 33, is pleased to be able to share the gospel on his bike. "That's how one friend came to know the Lord, he was checking out my bike." Van der Westhuizen took the opportunity to invite the man to church & a week later he did, returning 5 times before making a decision to become a Christian. "I always think I had a very small part to play, it wasn't me it was just my bike." The couple always carry a Bible in their pocket for such encounters, with the specially-designed cover reading 'Hope for the Highway' & telling readers to "hang on for the ride of your life". The Christians will be back on the road on February 28 & March 1 for Run for the Son where they will ride 1000km from Auckland to the Far North & back. Last year \$3500 was raised for Missionary Ventures, an organization which forges connections with Asia & Oceania's poorer communities by enabling people to go on mission trips or raise funds for various projects. This year Open Doors has been added to recipients. The charity assists through the supply of literature & training for Christians in countries where they are marginalised because of their faith.

**Feds accuse Highwaymen** – Feb 18, 2009 – *Detroit, Michigan* – By Paul Egan - Running an illegal gambling & booze operation is the latest criminal allegation federal authorities have made against the Highwaymen Motorcycle Club, federal court records show. The FBI was looking for evidence of "sales of alcohol & operation of illegal gambling," when it raided two Highwaymen clubhouses in Detroit & one in Lansing on Feb. 4, according to search warrant returns filed this week in U.S. District Court in Detroit. Agents seized more than a dozen video poker & slot machines, cards, poker chips, more than 100 bottles of liquor & wine, cases of beer, & more than \$2,000 in cash in the three raids, according to records filed in court late Tuesday. Shotgun shells, two guns, an inert hand grenade & large quantities of club clothing & memorabilia were also seized. Nobody was arrested in the recent raids & no gambling charges have been filed against club members. A large number of club members & associates are already awaiting trial on drug conspiracy & related charges. Federal prosecutors have said a sweeping racketeering indictment is likely to be filed against the club by the end of this month, with allegations that include interstate theft, police corruption, mortgage fraud & acts of violence. Club spokesmen have denied the Highwaymen is a criminal organization. The homegrown club is the largest of the Detroit-area motorcycle clubs to be classified as an outlaw motorcycle gang by the FBI.

**Bridgeport man charged in assault** – Feb 18, 2009 – *Connecticut* - A man wearing Hells Angels motorcycle gang gear

allegedly beat & threw a stool at a 51-year-old woman in an upper Main Street bar early Mon following a dispute. Paul Carroll, 42, of Bishop Ave, is charged with 2<sup>nd</sup>-degree assault, 2<sup>nd</sup>-degree threatening, 2<sup>nd</sup>-degree breach of the peace, 4<sup>th</sup>-degree criminal mischief & 3 counts of carrying a dangerous weapon. Colin D. Nelson, 53, of Fairfield, whom police said tried to stop Carroll, is charged with carrying dangerous weapons. He & Carroll had knives, police said. The woman suffered bruising to her chest & a hurt finger, police said. Police said video surveillance at the bar, the Something Different Cafe, showed Carroll knocking her to the floor, beating her & hitting her with a bar stool just after 1 a.m. Nelson also was shown trying to restrain Carroll, police said. Carroll denied the incident to police. Witnesses & the woman stated the incident started with an exchange of words. Police said Carroll was already free on bond from a July 2008 assault case pending in Derby Superior Court. He is charged there with 3<sup>rd</sup>-degree assault, 2<sup>nd</sup>-degree breach of the peace & 3<sup>rd</sup>-degree criminal mischief, according to Connecticut's Judicial Branch Web site. Carroll was held in lieu of \$50,000 bond, & Nelson was issued a summons to appear in Superior Court.

**Motorcycle gang fight cited in deaths of 2 men** - Feb. 19, 2009 - *Arizona* - by Eddi Trevizo; The Arizona Republic - A motorcycle gang fight outside a Phoenix QuikTrip may have led to the deaths of two men Tuesday night. John Lindenman, 43, & Bradley Lutzo, 45, were both shot & killed during a fight between two biker gangs that escalated into a shooting outside a QuikTrip convenience store near 19th & Peoria avenues, Phoenix spokeswoman Cindy Scott said. Police have not released information regarding the cause of the fight. Lindenman was found wounded on the ground in front of the QuikTrip, according to a Phoenix police press release. He was transported to a local hospital where he was later declared dead. Lutzo was found with gunshot wounds in the passenger seat of an abandoned pick-up truck outside St. Luke's hospital. Emergency workers treated Lutzo, but he later died of his injuries. Police did not have information regarding how many people were involved in the fight between rival gangs that began about 11 p.m. Both men were in the same motorcycle gang, Scott said. Multiple shots were fired & a weapon was recovered at the scene, Scott said. No arrests have been made & police did not release information regarding possible investigative leads. There are many unanswered questions in connection with this incident & the investigation is still ongoing, Phoenix police said in a press release.

**Motorcycle group cancels show** – Feb 19, 2009 – *Snohomish, Washington* – By Debra Smith - The organizers of a bike show that draws thousands to downtown Snohomish have canceled this year's show after a late night meeting Wed. It's unlikely the event will ever take place in Snohomish again, organizers say. The motorcycle group that puts on the Old Snohomish Antique & Classic Motorcycle Show said they can't afford to pay thousands more in fees this year. City officials wanted organizers to pay \$30,360 for 44 police officers to staff the event. The Sky Valley chapter of the American Bikers Aimed Towards Education paid about \$5,000 last year. The event drew an estimated 22,000 last year, & police say they need more officers because they are concerned about the potential for motorcycle gang violence. There have been no major incidents in the 12 years of the show. The group feels "disappointed & relieved," organizer Rod Hobelman said this morning.

**Ex-Hells Angels president** – Feb 19, 2009 – *Canada* – By Peter Small - The former president of the Simcoe County chapter of the Hells Angels, who swears he has turned his life around, was

nonetheless sentenced to 2-1/2 years in prison today for trafficking in 8,340 ecstasy pills for the benefit of a criminal organization. Often overcome with emotion, Terry Pink asked Ontario Superior Court Justice John McMahon to give him a stay-at-home sentence so he could take care of his new wife & two young children. He told the judge that he has gone in person to his clubhouse to resign from the Hells Angels. "I am of the upbringing that if I am going to do anything, I need to do it in person," he said. His lawyer, Joseph Bloomenfeld, said he is the only accused among Hells Angels members arrested in the Project Tandem police sweep to actually resign. "He actually looked them in the eye & did it," Bloomenfeld said.

**Brawling biker groups led to 2 deaths** - Feb. 20, 2009 - *Arizona* - By Michael Ferraresi; The Arizona Republic - A brawl involving rival motorcycle groups led to a shooting that left 2 men dead at a Sunnyslope convenience store, according to police who released the victims' names Thursday. Investigators described the unidentified groups as gangs, although others suggested they were unlike outlaw groups commonly tied to biker violence. Some police described the groups as substance-free organizations purportedly geared toward recovering addicts looking to ride with other sober motorcycle enthusiasts. John Lindenman, 43, & Bradley Lutzo, 45, suffered fatal gunshot wounds during an 11 p.m. brawl in a QuikTrip parking lot on Tuesday. No arrests have been made, & the deaths are under investigation, according to police. Neither Lindenman or Lutzo had criminal records in Arizona. Phoenix Detective Cindy Scott said the Dept will not release the names of the groups, citing its policy on withholding the identifications of documented criminal street gangs.

**County votes to restrict annual biker rallies** - Feb 20, 2009 - *Myrtle Beach, South Carolina* - Officials in a South Carolina county that is home to two big annual motorcycle rallies passed ordinances Tuesday aimed at curtailing the events. After a meeting lasting nearly five hours, the Horry County Council voted to restrict where vendors can set up shop during the rallies & how long they can sell their wares. The H-D spring rally & the Atlantic Beach Bikefest, both in May, attract about 250,000 people each to the area. Some residents have said they are fed up with noise, congestion & rowdy behavior. But businesses & bikers say stopping the rallies would hurt the economy. The county will be split into five permitting zones, a change council members say they hope will keep bikers from congregating in one or two central sections, & fewer permits will be available in highly populated areas. Members also voted to limit vendors to setting up shop for seven days at the H-D rally & four days for the Atlantic Beach rally. The County Council also passed an ordinance effective year-round to address permits for special events, including concerts, parades, & festivals. Myrtle Beach officials also have restricted the bike rallies, passing regulations requiring everyone riding a motorcycle in the city to use a helmet & eye protection & imposing a curfew for those younger than 18. The city said it would work to end the rallies after a Coastal Carolina University student was shot & killed last year during Bikefest in a dispute over a parking space.

**Man can live about 40 days** without food, about 3 days without water, about 8 minutes without air, but only for 1 second without hope...

**Hiking is just walking** where it's okay to pee. Sometimes old people hike by mistake.

**I started off with nothing** & I've still got most of it left...

**Transportation secretary eyes taxing miles driven** - February 20, 2009 - *Washington, DC* - AP - Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood says he wants to consider taxing motorists based on how many miles they drive rather than how much gasoline they burn - an idea that has angered drivers in some states where it has been proposed. Gasoline taxes that for nearly half a century have paid for the federal share of highway & bridge construction can no longer be counted on to raise enough money to keep the nation's transportation system moving, LaHood said in an interview with The Associated Press. "We should look at the vehicular miles program where people are actually clocked on the number of miles that they traveled," the former Illinois Republican lawmaker said. Most transportation experts see a vehicle miles traveled tax as a long-term solution, but Congress is being urged to move in that direction now by funding pilot projects. The idea also is gaining ground in several states. Governors in Idaho & Rhode Island are talking about such programs, & a North Carolina panel suggested in December the state start charging motorists a quarter-cent for every mile as a substitute for the gas tax. A tentative plan in Massachusetts to use GPS chips in vehicles to charge motorists by the mile has drawn complaints from drivers who say it's an Orwellian intrusion by government into the lives of citizens. Other motorists say it eliminates an incentive to drive more fuel-efficient cars since gas guzzlers will be taxed at the same rate as fuel sippers.

**Mayor wants action** - Feb 20, 2009 - *Denmark* - As it was announced yesterday that a substantial number of new police recruits will be assigned to the Copenhagen area, the city mayor, Ritt Bjerregaard, feels more needs to be done to combat the gang activities plaguing the streets. In the last six months there has been an escalation of violence, with at least 26 gang-related shootings in the city. Politiken newspaper reports that the mayor wants to extend a 'no cruising' zone to inner city areas most affected by street shootings between immigrant & biker gangs. Access to Vestergade & Nørregade streets on Thursday, Friday & Saturday nights is currently restricted to taxis & local residents, to prevent cars 'cruising' or driving very slowly by.

**Power imbalance** - Feb 20, 2009 - *Canada* - By Jeff Nagel - The gangster gun battles & targeted hits rocking Metro Vancouver's streets stem from instability in the balance of power of the gangs controlling the lucrative drug trade, according to one gang expert. Mayhem of the type that's broken out over the past month is normally bad business for gangs that are firmly ensconced & want stable, consistent profits, says SFU director of criminology Rob Gordon. He says the Hells Angels were dominant in B.C. & preferred to keep "disciplinary actions" quiet to avoid the police & political attention that come when the public is terrorized by broad daylight shootings in mall parking lots & local streets. But Gordon suspects police pursuit of the Angels in recent years has weakened the biker gang's grip on the industry & provided an opening for rivals to try to gain more market share. "There's a disturbance in the force," he explains, likening successful police crackdowns on organized crime to a game of Whack-a-Mole. "You pound them down in one place & they'll pop up in another."

**It was so cold in Chicago**, I saw a lawyer walking down the street with his hands in his own pocket.

**Forgetfulness** doesn't come from old age; it comes from having too many stupid things to remember...

**Hells Angels Expected To Stop In Carlton Co.** – Feb 20, 2009 - *Minnesota* - Hundreds of Hells Angels are expected to visit Carlton County this summer as part of the club's USA National Ride. Up to one thousand members are expected. Carlton County Sheriff, Kelly Lake says they have learned of the club's plans to meet in her county in Late July & early August. But she says they have not received a confirmation from the Hell's Angels. Sheriff Lake says local, state & federal authorities will be meeting to prepare for this summer's event...as they would for any event of this size. The big Sturgis Motorcycle Rally will be held the following week.

**'My brothers died, for what?** Feb 21, 2009 – *Australia* - They were just at the wrong place at the wrong day'. Faced with a loaded gun, Geoff "Snake" Campbell didn't ask for mercy. Instead, he held his hands up, offering to have a more civilised fist fight. Bang, was the response. Snake fell to the ground, clutching his stomach. It was the first shot of the Milperra Massacre, on Father's Day 1984, outside the Viking Tavern, & within minutes two more of Snake's five brothers, John "Whack" Campbell & Colin "Caesar" Campbell, would be gunned down. The battle, sparked by inter-club rivalries between the Comancheros & the Bandidos, led to the deaths of a 14-year-old girl, 4 Comancheros & 2 Bandidos. "I was the first person shot," Snake says in footage to be aired on Wednesday's episode of the Channel Seven documentary series *Gangs Of Oz*. "The guy ... pointing the gun at me was a Comanchero & I asked, 'Will you use these, fight with the fists,' know what I mean? And he went, 'No,' ... blasted me." Snake said a Comanchero then walked over, "stuck the shotty in me head while I was lying there". "I said, 'Do it, mate.' He winked at me & said, 'Not today, Snake.'" Snake's brother Gregory "Shadow" Campbell & an "adopted brother", Mario Ciantar, were less fortunate. A famous photo shows Phillip "Bull" Campbell collapsed in grief onto Shadow. The book about the battle, *Brothers In Arms*, describes Bull clutching Shadow for more than an hour, oblivious to the ambulance & police officers. Bull died in jail two years later from a blood clot his family blames on injuries he sustained in the battle. "My brothers died, for what?" Snake told *The Sydney Morning Herald* last year. "For no reason. They were just at the wrong place at the wrong day. Bikers are human, too."

**The Navy** found they had too many officers & decided to offer an early Retirement bonus. They promised any officer who volunteered for retirement a bonus of \$1000 for every inch measured in a straight line between any two points in his body. The officer got to choose what those two points would be. The first officer who accepted, asked that he be measured, from the top of his head to the tip of his toes. He was measured at six feet & walked out with a bonus of \$72,000. The second officer who accepted was a little smarter & asked to be measured from the tip of his outstretched hands to his toes. He walked out with \$96,000. The third one was a grizzly old Captain who, when asked where he would like to be measured, replied, "From the tip of my penis to my testicles." It was suggested by the pension man that he may want to reconsider, explaining about the nice checks the previous two officers had received. But the old Captain insisted & they decided to go along with him, providing the measurement was taken by a medical officer. The medical officer arrived & instructed the Captain to drop'em, which he did. The medical officer placed the tape measure on the tip of the Captain's penis & began to work back. "My God!, he suddenly exclaimed, "Where are your testicles? The Captain calmly replied, "Vietnam".

**Police told: take their bikes & badges** – Feb 21, 2009 – *Australia* – By Edmund Tadros - THE escalating bikie war in NSW should be ended by having police strip the club members of symbols of their identity, an authority on the outlaw motorcycle gang culture says. Professor Arthur Veno, of Monash University, said police should punish the clubs responsible for the spate of tit-for-tat violence by confiscating their bikes, clubhouses & badges. "The crux of the matter is for the club to lose its identity & being, & thus the members have no 'honour' to protect by engaging in public or private wars," said Professor Veno, the author of *The Brotherhoods: Inside The Outlaw Motorcycle Clubs & the forthcoming Biker Chicks: The Magnetic Attraction Of Women To Big Motorcycles And/Or Bad Boys*. There have been at least 19 incidents of bikie violence in NSW in the past year, culminating in the February 4 bombing of a Hells Angels clubhouse in Crystal Street, Petersham. Late last week, police arrested two bikies in Milperra & found a loaded gun, a laser sight & seven detonators in their vehicle. Professor Veno opposed emulating South Australia's anti-bikie laws, which ban membership of clubs declared to be criminal gangs. "The police should go in there & kick some arse. They need to seize assets & clubhouses," he said. "And the bikies need to be told that if they fail to stop the war with the clubs involved the big blue gang [police] confiscates everything. They lose their club." Police said defection of bikies from one club to another - known as "patching over" - was one reason for the current violence. "[Our] investigations suggest the conflicts could be due to a number of factors, including competition over turf or illicit drug supply or patching over of members," gangs squad commander Detective Superintendent Mal Lanyon said. Professor Veno said the loss of riding rules was behind the clubs' move into criminal activities, such as making & distributing drugs. "The older-style clubs still have the riding rules," he said. "You must put in X kilometres a year & your motorcycle must be in running condition during riding season. Those two rules keep the criminal element out of the clubs. As they have dropped the riding rules, the criminals have entered." This is highlighted by the emergence of "Nike bikies", who wear white sneakers & fashionable T-shirts, & are clean-shaven, instead of sporting the traditional boots, dirty vests & bushy beards. Police said the new club at the heart of the current war, Notorious, was made of many Nike bikies.

**Biker branding: Angels seek to protect skull logo** – Feb 21, 2009 – *Canada* – By Peter Edwards - After years of the Hells Angels being the target of police raids & surveillance across North America, the outlaw motorcycle gang has decided to make a stand in an Ontario court – over its logo. Next month, the Hells Angels MC takes to the courts in a bid to force police to return its vests, jewellery, calendars, scarves, T-shirts, belt buckles, rings, pins, posters, a cuckoo clock, bumper stickers & anything else they have seized bearing the bikers' trademarked logo of a winged skull. Those items were seized in dozens of police raids since the club came to Ontario eight years ago – including the Project Tandem raids on the Toronto chapter's Eastern Ave. clubhouse & the Oshawa chapter's Toronto St. headquarters. The bikers' appeal to the Ontario Court of Justice is believed to be the first such legal action for the world's largest outlaw motorcycle club, considered a criminal organization by Ontario courts. But in the past, they have jealously protected the copyright of their winged-skull logo, successfully suing an author over the use of the logo on a book cover & even forcing Disney Pictures to change a movie script. While it is a unique case, it should not be shocking that the bikers are so defensive about their logo, says Prof. Ken Hardy of the Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario in London. "This is basic marketing: you define

yourself,” said Hardy, who teaches business students the importance of brand identification – or “branding” – in mainstream marketing. If they lose the power of their trademarked logos, Hardy says, “they’re diminishing their stock as a badass.” That stock helps them recruit members, conduct business & feel special, the professor says. The trademark issue will be addressed on March 16 at the Univ Ave. courthouse, when Gerald (Skinny) Ward of the Hells Angels Niagara chapter will be sentenced for cocaine trafficking. Lawyers representing the Hells Angels have already notified the court that all items bearing the Hells Angels’ winged-skull logo are the property of the club’s headquarters in Oakland, CA, & not individual bikers. They have filed an affidavit with the Ontario Court of Justice that includes a contract signed by Windsor Hells Angel Giuliano Raimondo with the international club on Aug. 31, 2006, on becoming a member. The opening clause of the contract for new members reads: “The right to ownership of any & all articles bearing the name “Hells Angels” and/or the winged skull insignia/logo known as a “Death Head” (both of which are registered with the United States Patent Office) ... are the sole & legal property of HAMC.” The contract further states that Raimondo & others in the club wear their Hells Angels vest & other items bearing the logo only at the discretion of the club & that their right to do so “is subject to revocation at any time & for any or no reason at the sole option & discretion of the HAMC.” The contract further states that the name “Hells Angels” & the logo are copyrighted with the club in the United States, Canada, Austria, Australia, Britain, France, Brazil, Hong Kong, Taiwan & Japan. The final clause of the contract states that if Raimondo dies or leaves the club, he agrees that all material bearing the club logo “shall immediately be relinquished to a duly appointed representative of the HAMC, by either myself or my surviving heirs.” A Whitby court heard last year that if a tattoo bears the name “Hells Angels” or the death head logo, then even the skin of a member is considered club property. Members who leave the club in good standing are expected to tattoo an “expiry date” under any club tattoos, indicating the date he became a non-member. Members who are kicked out of the club are expected to immediately remove the words “Hells Angels” & the club logos from their skin. Steven Gault, the former secretary of the Oshawa Hells Angels who became a police agent, told a Whitby court this winter that he has heard of a cheese grater being used to forcibly remove a logo from a reluctant former member. Raimondo & Craig McIlquham of Oakville, also of the Windsor Hells Angels, were arrested in September 2006. They were each sentenced to five years & six months in prison for trafficking a kilo of cocaine, 10,000 ecstasy pills & two kilograms of methamphetamine. They also jointly forfeited \$139,500 seized as proceeds of crime. A police brief filed as part of a recent biker trial states that wearing the name “Hells Angels” & a death head patch commands immediate brand recognition among criminals. “The Hells Angels name & Death Head logo being worn by a member ... indicates to other Hells Angels members & the criminal subculture that they can deal or do business with him knowing that they will not be ‘ripped off’ & that the Hells Angels member would not make any statements to the police,” the police brief states. “They do, however, know that if they rip off the Hells Angels member, it is as if they have ripped off the whole club.” Minutes from a Hells Angels world officers’ meeting held on June 9, 2006, in Ashfield, England, note a suggestion that the club study the efforts made by large corporations like Coca Cola & Nike to deter trademark infringements, “as they combat similar problems ...” Each member is charged with the responsibility of maintaining copyright protection. An Apr ‘04 club memo seized from the gang’s Eastern Ave. clubhouse says that Larry Pooler of

the Downtown Toronto chapter was in charge of overseeing logo protection for Central Canadian Hells Angels chapters.

**They behaved like angels** – Feb 22, 2009 – *United Kingdom* – By Emily Walker - Police were out in force on Swindon’s streets at the weekend for one of the biggest operations the town has ever seen. Leave was cancelled across the force as every available officer took to the streets in preparation for the arrival of a notorious motorcycle gang. Preparing for the worst, police were out in force on Friday & Saturday night as the Hell’s Angels celebrated 20 years in the town. But the event passed without incident. As the bikers arrived from Friday afternoon, patrol cars were perched on the edge of town on each of the major roads. Hells Angels made their way from across the country & beyond to celebrate the anniversary of the Swindon chapter, based in Gorse Hill. Bikers wearing the distinctive badged leather jackets were seen sporting the colours of branches of the motorcycle club in Somerset, the North West & Hungary. About 300 gang members made their way to the Moonrakers pub to celebrate with entertainment including specially hired exotic dancers. One member of the gang, who did not want to be named, said: “The police have been really heavy handed with us, especially when we have been so accommodating to them. “They were pulling people over & stopping them for no reason on their way into Swindon.” As part of Operation Davidson, town centre enforcement was stepped up over fears trouble could erupt between football fans & the bikers & police evidence gatherers circled the town photographing & filming gang members & their vehicles. PC Fiona Cuthbert, of the evidence gathering unit, drafted in from Trowbridge for the night, said: “We film for any changes in behaviour. “We are used in riot situations to film crowds – that way we can see changes in behavior early & prevent crime. “And also, should any charges be brought, we have the evidence to back it up.” PC Cuthbert & her colleague PC Nigel Bullimore fed the number plates of every vehicle in the Moonrakers car park into the police national computer. They tailed a group of the bikers from the Tap & Barrel pub in Manchester Road as they made their way to the party. And they also made regular sweeping searches around the Norman Road headquarters of the Hells Angels Nomads. With so many officers waiting to jump into action, the force put resources to work, serving warrants, checking licensed premises & tackling anti-social behaviour. Officers on the east Swindon neighbourhood policing teams made one of their biggest cocaine seizures on Friday night & Old Town officers checked for under-age drinkers in Wood Street. Chief Inspector Simon Message, the officer in charge of the operation on Friday & Saturday night, said: “The whole weekend went off very quietly. “We had about 50 officers on duty on Friday night, 100 Saturday & another 40 or so on Sunday. “Everything went according to plan as far as we were concerned, it was very peaceful, a fairly standard weekend in Swindon. “In fact crime-wise it was probably quieter than a normal Saturday night, but that is probably because there were so many police about.”

**Ole is walking home late at night**, through the park & sees a woman in the shadows. “Twenty dollars” she whispers, He’d never been with a hooker before, but decides, what the hell, it’s only twenty bucks. So they hide in the bushes. They’re going “at it” for a minute when all of a sudden a light flashes on them - - it’s a police officer. “What’s going on here people?” asks the officer. “I’m making luff to my wife.” Ole answers indignantly. “Oh, I’m sorry.” says the cop, “I didn’t know.” “Vell,” says Ole. “I didn’t neder, ‘till you shine that damn light in her face.”

**Biker faces charges in text threats** – Feb 23, 2009 – *New York* –

By Dan Herbeck - A man identified by the FBI as a member of the Kingsmen MC is accused of threatening a rival biker in text messages. Ronald M. Blair, 39, of Cotton Street, Lancaster, faces a federal felony charge of transmitting threats to injure another person, the U. S. attorney's office said. According to court papers, Lancaster police arrested Blair on a gun possession charge Jan. 25 after he had argued with James D. Ignasiak in Pete's Hilltop Bar. "Ignasiak's brother is a member of the Chosen Few motorcycle club, & the Chosen Few are at odds with the Kingsmen motorcycle club," FBI Special Agent Kenneth A. Jensen Jr. said. Then, on Feb. 11, Blair sent a series of threatening text messages to a friend of Ignasiak, Assistant U. S. Attorney Anthony M. Bruce said. Blair texted that he was "coming over with 2 club bros." & advised the friend to "Tell [Ignasiak] to call a doctor," FBI agents said. While biker gang disputes have gone on for decades, authorities said Blair is believed to be the first local biker accused of using text messages to deliver threats. But Thomas J. Eoannou, Blair's attorney, ridiculed the charges. "The federal government should be ashamed of prosecuting a case like this," Eoannou said. "On any given day, you'll find worse threats than this being made by teenage girls in any high school in Western New York."

**West Allis man not guilty in open carry gun case** – Feb 17,

2009 – *Wisconsin* - By Linda Spice - As Brad Krause planted a tree in his yard last summer, a neighbor noticed that in addition to a shovel, Krause had a tool not usually required for yard work - a gun in a holster. Police arrived & gave Krause a ticket alleging disorderly conduct, launching a case that a national gun-rights group has been watching for months. On Tuesday, Krause won acquittal in what some advocates say is one of the first so-called open-carry gun cases heard in a Wisconsin court. Municipal Judge Paul Murphy said he had reviewed several state statutes & court cases related to the right to keep & bear arms. "There being no law whatsoever dealing with the issue of an unconcealed weapon or the so-called open carry is why we're here today," Murphy said. In the end, he determined Krause's actions did not rise to disorderly conduct & found him not guilty. City Attorney Scott Post declined to comment Tuesday. Police responded to Krause's home in August after the neighbor called. They arrested Krause, gave him a disorderly conduct ticket & seized his gun. Krause hired an attorney, Steven Cain, & fought the charge during a court trial in December. After Murphy's ruling Tuesday, Krause said the significance of the case extends beyond gun rights. "The reason people are upset about this is it's not about guns. It's about civil liberties. And we obviously have a property issue. There was no warrant issued, no exigent circumstances, no permission to enter the property, yet the police stormed in with guns drawn & put my life at risk," Krause said. Asked why he was carrying a gun to plant a tree, Krause said, "There's no requirement to justify why you're able to exercise constitutional rights. I & everyone else are able to go to church, they're able to vote, they're able to speak their mind. Even though the city might not like it, we have that right." His attorney said the overarching issue in the case was whether it is legal to openly carry a gun. "The law in Wisconsin really only limits concealed carry," Cain said. Cain argued that the U.S. Supreme Court decision last year that found Washington, D.C.'s gun ban unconstitutional concluded that open carry is "an individual right that shouldn't be abridged by law enforcement. That's what the case is generally all about." West Allis Deputy Chief Rick Balistreri said Tuesday's verdict will not change the way his officers respond to similar calls, noting they must assess all calls on a case-by-case basis, particularly when a gun is involved. Krause's case had been one

of several around the country followed closely & promoted by Virginia-based OpenCarry.org. "Really, the larger issue is not even a gun rights issue," said organization co-founder John Pierce. "It's the issue of having a disorderly conduct statute that is a catch-all statute for otherwise legal behavior."

**Bandido bikie pleads not guilty** – Feb 23, 2009 – *Australia* – By

Ross Irby - A Bandido bikie member is accused of throwing a block of methylamphetamine (speed) from the 13th floor balcony of a high-rise apartment complex into the sea below during a police drug raid. In a trial before Lismore District Court Peter Mauric, 40, is pleading not guilty to the charges of supplying 9.3 grams of cocaine, 5.8grams of MDMA, & 294.9 grams of speed (methylamphetamine) at Tweed Heads on April 28, 2006. At the start of the trial Judge James Black told the jury it was very important that just because some people (like bikie groups) received bad publicity 'it doesn't mean they are bad'. He compared it to negative publicity drivers who held provisional licences often received. In the opening address the Crown prosecutor said when police went into the 13th floor unit of Seascape Apartments on Boyd Street, a search was videotaped with police finding cocaine & MDMA in plastic click-lock bags in a kitchen cupboard. In the freezer 50 grams of speed was found in an empty pizza box & another 244.9 grams was in a plastic container. Mauric was later seen to run to the balcony & throw the container over into the Jack Evans boat harbour below, where it sank. Police retrieved it from the sea. "I didn't do anything mate," Mauric had told the police before accusing the officers of planting the drugs in the apartment. The Crown is alleging the reason he threw the big block of MDMA into the sea was because he knew what it contained. Defence counsel Allan Goldsworthy said the drugs did not belong to Mauric & it was not his apartment, with his client only returning half-an-hour before from a funeral in Sydney.

**Motorcycle gang member shoots self in face** – Feb 24, 2009 –

*Pennsylvania* – By Dennis J. Wright; Journal Register - Following a stand-off with police, a member of the Pagans MC shot himself in the face early Monday morning at Eland Downe townhouses. Police Chief William Mossman said that Jarrod Scott Guest, 29, of the 3700 block of Eland Downe, shot himself in the face after pointing his gun at a Phoenixville police officer around 1 a.m. Feb. 23. Mossman said that his Dept was dispatched to the 3700 block of Eland Downe after receiving a phone call from Guest's father around 10:45 p.m. Feb. 22. "He called his father & told him to call the Phoenixville police. He said he wanted the Phoenixville police to come to his house, & that there was a body in his house," said Mossman. "He elluded that he would kill himself." A known member of the Pagan MC, Mossman said that his Dept knew of Guest & that he had firearms in his residence. "We've been dealing with him for a few months," he said. "He's been having trouble with his wife since last summer. We knew there was a recent protection from abuse (PFA) order filed." Mossman said that Guest received a phone call from the Spring City PD regarding a domestic situation, to which that & other personal problems that he was experiencing apparently set him off. "We knew he had a permit to carry, but it was revoked due to the recent PFA. We treated this like it was a barricaded gunman situation," said Mossman. "When it arises, we surround the building, secure it, establish a perimeter & begin communication." Sgt. Brian Marshall, a trained & certified critical incident negotiator, arrived on scene & began a phone conversation with Guest. "We wanted to talk him out & have it be a peaceful resolution," said Marshall. Mossman said that Guest was talking to Marshall for about a half hour. "(Guest) was

very aggravated,” he said. “He was upset & he made it abundantly clear that he was going to shoot it out. He was going out in a blaze of glory. He did everything to taunt us. He was extremely rude, & very profane; however, (Sgt. Marshall) kept talking peacefully to him.” Not only did police have to deal with the uncertainty of the situation, where officers were stationed around the house in case Guest would attempt to leave, but they had to endure 25-degree temperatures. While Marshall was negotiating with Guest, the Chester County SWAT team arrived. Mossman said that he had one of his officers deflate the tires of Guest’s pickup truck so he couldn’t use it to escape. Around 12:55 a.m., Mossman said Guest walked out of the townhouse & into the parking lot. “(Guest) walked up to my officer & pointed a .40-caliber Glock pistol at him,” he said. “They were approximately 10 feet apart, & he pointed it right at him. “The officer raised his rifle & ordered (Guest) to put his gun down. After a brief stand-off, Guest lowered his gun. Within seconds, Guest brought the gun up to his chin & fired.” Police & emergency medical personnel began immediately life-saving procedures on Guest. He was transported via West End Ambulance to a waiting helicopter, where he was airlifted to the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Mossman said that as of Monday afternoon, Guest was upgraded from critical condition, but remains in a coma in the hospital’s intensive care unit. At the time of the incident, Lt. Thomas Sjostrom said that Guest was the only person at the residence. “No one in the vicinity had to be evacuated,” said Sjostrom. “We checked the house for anyone. We knew he has a child. We checked everywhere & the house was cleared & secured. It went down really quick.” Mossman said that prior to their arrival; Guest destroyed a lot of property inside the house. “He took a baseball bat to a lot of his stuff,” he said. “We recovered the baseball bat. He did a lot of damage inside.” On Mon, police secured an arrest warrant for Guest & continued their investigation at the scene. Although a member of the Pagans MC, Guest had limited contact with law enforcement prior to this year. He was arrested on driving under the influence charges in Downingtown on Jan. 20, & was scheduled for a preliminary hearing on March 9. Upon his release from the hospital, he is facing charges of aggravated assault, simple assault, recklessly endangering another person & firearms not to be carried without a license from Monday morning’s incident. Mossman said that he is extremely proud of the way his Dept handled the situation. “They did a helluva job,” he said. “We were standing out there for hours in cold temperatures. They handled it flawlessly. My entire command staff & officers were out there for over three hours. No citizens were hurt. No officers were hurt. The only person who was hurt was the one who did it to himself.” During the incident, Mossman said he maintained contact with Mayor Leo Scoda. “The mayor was informed periodically & kept apprised of the situation,” he said. “We had the full support of the mayor’s office during the incident.” Assisting at the scene were the Phoenixville PD, Schuylkill Township PD, East Pikeland PD, Spring City PD, East Vincent PD, the Chester County SWAT Team, Chester County Command Vehicle & North Penn Goodwill Service.

**Biker shot by Seattle cop gets suspended sentence!** – Feb 24, 2009 – *South Dakota* – By John de Leon - A member of the Hells Angels pleaded no contest in a South Dakota courtroom on Mon to a charge of simple assault stemming from a fight last Aug involving an off-duty Seattle police officer. After Joseph McGuire’s plea, a judge sentenced him to 1 year in the Meade County Jail at Sturgis, S.D., but suspended the sentence as long as McGuire does not break the law, according to the Rapid City Journal. McGuire & other members of the Hells Angels were involved in a barroom fight with Seattle police detective Ron

Smith during the annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. Smith pulled out a handgun & shot McGuire. As a result of the shooting Smith faced several criminal charges of aggravated assault, carrying a concealed weapon & perjury, but the charges were later dropped. Smith told The Seattle Times shortly after the incident that he had opened fire after McGuire & other members of the Hells Angels jumped him inside the Loud American Roadhouse. Smith said he may have been targeted by the Hells Angels because he testified in a high-profile Fed racketeering & murder trial in Seattle in ‘07 that sent several former & current members of the gang to prison. Smith, who has since returned to work, declined to comment.

**Guilty pleas expected in Mongols case** – Feb 26, 2009 – *Los Angeles, California* – By Rod Leveque - Some members of the Mongols motorcycle gang intend to plead guilty to Fed charges related to their participation in the violent, outlaw organization, according to court records made public on Thu. Fed prosecutors say those who admit their guilt will also cooperate in the prosecution of fellow gang members, putting themselves & their families at risk for violent retaliation & murder. In anticipation of the guilty pleas, federal prosecutors have asked a judge to seal all court records pertaining to plea bargains & sentencings. “The Gov’t believes that the threat of retaliation is credible & raises significant concerns for the safety of the persons involved,” Fed prosecutors say in a 5-page document filed in U.S. District Court. Authorities arrested more than 60 reputed Mongols in Oct as part of a nationwide, Fed crackdown on the gang. The arrests concluded a 3-year undercover investigation. All were named in an 86-count Fed racketeering indictment that included allegations of murder, attempted murder, assaults, hate crimes, gun violations & drug trafficking. Many of the arrests in “Operation Black Rain” were made in the San Gabriel Valley. The Mongols originated in Montebello in the 1970s, but later moved their headquarters to West Covina. In their written request, prosecutors say they believe guilty pleas are coming based on conversations with attys representing some of the accused. They say secrecy is needed in the pleas because gang members would likely harm any fellow member who turned on them. The gang also has ties to the Mexican Mafia, a violent prison gang, meaning any Mongol who cooperates with prosecutors might even be in danger behind bars, prosecutors claim.

**Mongols have pleaded guilty** – Feb 27, 2009 – *California* - By Ruby Gonzales - Some members of the Mongols motorcycle gang indicted on a federal racketeering case already pleaded guilty before the trial begins this summer, according to court records. Because documents related to the plea agreements & sentencing were sealed, Fed authorities on Friday wouldn’t say how many of the 79 Mongols members indicted in the case already pled. However, court records show a plea agreement was filed Jan. 22. On Jan. 23, there was a hearing where a plea was accepted. There were no defendants named & the associated documents were sealed. Assistant U.S. Atty Reema El-Amamy said a trial is set for July 21 in the Fed courthouse in Los Angeles for those who have not pled. On Wed, a judge approved the request by Fed prosecutors to seal the records about any pleas. El-Amamy wrote in the request that defendants who wish to plead guilty & cooperate with the prosecution face retaliation from the gang. They & their families could be killed. She pointed out that the Mongols’ association with the prison-based Mexican Mafia which regularly orders the killing of people by its associates “raises significant concerns about the safety of the defendants who choose to plead guilty and/or cooperate, as well as the safety of their families.” A federal grand jury indicted 79 members & associates of the Mongols gang on Oct. 9, 2008 after a two-year

investigation. The 86-count federal racketeering indictment included allegations of murder, attempted murder, assaults, hate crimes, gun violations & drug trafficking. The defendants include Mongols MC national president Ruben Cavazos. Cavazos' attorney, Angel Navarro, said on Friday he wasn't at liberty to discuss the case when asked if his client accepted a plea bargain. About 61 members & associates of the gang were arrested in a Fed nationwide sweep in Oct. Half of the 121 search warrants served in the Southland were in the San Gabriel Valley & Whittier areas. Authorities also seized seven pounds of methamphetamine, 71 guns & 70 motorcycles.

**Fight between members of MCs** may have led to an execution-style shooting on an interstate - Feb 27, 2009 - *Alabama* - By Eric Velasco - A fight between members of motorcycle clubs at a Fairfield club last month may have led to an execution-style shooting on a Birmingham interstate highway, testimony in a hearing Thursday showed. Charles Bevelle, a 33-year-old coal miner from Hueytown, was found dead about 3 a.m. Jan. 11 on the side of I-20/59 in the Ensley area, next to his wrecked car. Jefferson County District Court Judge Sheldon Watkins bound over the intentional murder case against Charlie Joe "Coyote" Wilson Jr. to a grand jury after a preliminary hearing Thu. Wilson, 42, also faces a probation revocation hearing today from a 2004 assault case in which he stomped a man during a fight between rival groups at a biker bar. Wilson was charged then with attempted murder, but pleaded guilty to assault in 2005 & received a 10-year term with all but two years suspended, court records show. Chris Anderson, the lead Birmingham police detective in the Bevelle case, testified Thursday that a witness said he stopped on the interstate after seeing a wrecked car. The witness said he was going to ask if the driver needed help & was walking back to his car when he saw two men pull up in a Cadillac STS, Anderson testified. The witness said he saw the Cadillac's driver walk up to the man standing outside the wrecked car, shoot him in the back of the head, then drive off, Anderson testified. The witness later identified Wilson from a photo lineup. Earlier that night, Wilson & Bevelle had been involved in a fight at the Hell Lovers MC facility in Fairfield between members of 2 motorcycle clubs, Anderson said. Wilson was with a club known as Sin City, while Bevelle was with a club called Sho'Nuff, witnesses told police. Bevelle left soon after the fight, in which gunshots were fired. A witness at the club told police that Wilson stayed there a few minutes before driving off in a Cadillac STS. Defense lawyer Eric Guster questioned whether police checked to see if any of the other Sin City members involved in the fight could have shot Bevelle. Wilson contends he was driving a wounded compatriot to get medical attention when Bevelle was killed. Guster asked Watkins to set bond, which prosecutor Jim Neill opposed. Neill said that after Wilson was indicted in the 2004 case, members of his motorcycle club intimidated witnesses, forcing prosecutors to offer a plea deal on a lesser charge. "I don't want our witness to end up dead," Neill said. Watkins declined to set bond. Wilson faces potential incarceration if his probation is revoked in the other case.

**Police break up biker gang fight** - Mar 1, 2009 - *Pennsylvania* - WPVI - On Sunday afternoon around 3:00 p.m. the Philadelphia Police responded to a fight at the Sheraton Hotel at 17th & Race Streets. Police tell Action News there is was a tattoo convention going on at the hotel. Undercover police were monitoring 2 rival biker gangs inside of the hotel. When they sensed that a fight was going to take place they called in back up. The fight broke out & the police had sufficient back up to get the fight under control quickly. Some people in the fight were arrested.

**Biker Brawl at Philly Tat Convention** - Mar 2, 2009 - *Pennsylvania* - By Vince Lattanzio - Several people were arrested after members of three biker gangs got into a brawl at the Philly Tattoo Arts Convention Sunday, police said. Two motorcycle groups, the Pagans & Outlaws, were at the convention inside the Center City Sheraton when a rival gang, The Warlocks, showed up, according to sources. Then, for some reason, the ink hit the fan. Eight people were arrested after police broke up two fights, one inside the convention & one on the street. No one was seriously hurt.

**Bikers brawl at tattoo convention** - Mar 2, 2009 - *Pennsylvania* - By Cynthia Burton; Inquirer - Rival motorcycle gangs brawled at a tattoo convention held at the Sheraton Philadelphia City Center Hotel yesterday, with 8 members of the groups injured. About 40 police swarmed the hotel at 17th & Race Streets after fisticuffs broke out around 3 p.m. between the Pagans & the Outlaws, according to Chief Inspector Joseph Sullivan. Police made several arrests in connection with the fight, which spilled from the hotel lobby into the street, & charges were pending. No one was seriously hurt. "What happened is what ordinarily happens when 2 gangs get together - violence broke out," Sullivan said. One of the combatants had a firearm with a legal permit, & both the gun & permit were confiscated, Sullivan said. Eyewitness Bob Thiede, 37, of Westville, said the fight was between a man with skinhead tattooed on his back & several others wearing Pagan T-shirts. "They hit the skinhead with a broomstick," said Thiede, who was accompanied by girlfriend "Miss Angie," who declined to give her last name. Thiede said the man "had broomstick marks all over him." Troy Timpel, who ran the convention & owns Tattooed Kingpin in Society Hill, noted that the violence did not occur in the convention area on the hotel's second & third floors. About 175 exhibitors & 8,000 attendees came to the Philadelphia Tattoo Arts Convention over its three-day run, which ended yesterday. "They had nothing to do with us," Timpel said. "Motorcycle-club enthusiasts come every year, & we've never had any problems with anyone. This year, there was a minor incident." Timpel said the convention began nine years ago & hosts tattoo artists from countries around the world, including Germany, Japan, England, Italy, & Finland.

**Another person killed in Danish gang war** - Mar 2, 2009 - *Copenhagen, Denmark* - A person was killed & three others were injured in yet another shooting in Copenhagen early Monday in what appeared to be linked to a raft of gang-related shootings there in recent days, police told media. Four people were hit when unknown assailants opened fire outside a cafe in the Danish capital & all were rushed to hospital by ambulance, head of the investigation Tommy Keil told the Politiken daily's website. One of the victims had died, he said, adding that it was too early to say anything about the condition of the others who had been shot. "This appears to be gang related," police spokesman Henrik Olesen meanwhile told the paper. Copenhagen has since Friday been the scene of several violent shootings in what seems to be part of an escalating gang turf war between Hells Angels bikers & their supporters & youths of immigrant origin in the Danish capital in recent months. On Friday, a man of Iraqi origin was shot & killed, while an ethnic Dane remained in critical condition after three men on bicycles shot up his car as he & a friend were looking for a parking spot on Sat. Over the past seven months, more than 60 shootings have rocked a traditionally calm Copenhagen, with around half linked for certain to the gang war that exploded into full-blown war on Aug 19 when a 19-year-old man of Turkish origin was executed on the street.