ABATE of Alaska Newsletter





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The Three Angels Memorial Track Benches



The benches and table were purchased and staged at the track earlier this year, but the ground was very wet.

On July 10th we finished setting up the three benches at the Three Angels Memorial Track in honor of Elaine Loew and Jim and Sabrina Carlyle who tragically lost their lives while riding their motorcycles on May 3, 2014.

The benches were set up for people to be able to sit and reflect on the lives of not only Elaine, Jim, and Sabrina, but also on all of our fellow motorcyclists that have left us too soon. However they were also

set up so we could remember why we continue to ride even in light of these terrible losses. Among these are of course, the love of the open road, the wind in our faces, truly feeling a part of our surroundings and of course the fellowship with our



The benches were placed on the south side of the track.

fellow riders. But I also believe we continue to ride because those that are no longer with us would want us too. They understood the feeling of pure joy and freedom that riding motorcycles bring. And while they now ride among the clouds and the stars I believe they would

want us to continue to feel that joy and freedom during our time on earth.

So to my fellow riders I want to say please ride safe and remember that you have Angels looking down on you and smiling with approval. I know I have at least three. Ride safe, ride free and ride in the memory of those that are no longer here to share the roads with us.

Peace on the road

Tom "Zookeeper" Evans President ABATE of Alaska Assistant MRF State Rep Alaska



The ABATE of Alaska volunteers enjoying the fruits of their labor after a job well done.

The 2017 Gathering and Bike Blessing



We had over 1100 motorcycles at this years event.

Photo Courtesy of Tracy Try

The 2017 Gathering and Bike Blessing is our annual event to kick-off the month of May as Motorcycle Awareness month. It was more than just a repeat of last year's great success for this event and the weather was incredible again! This year we logged over 1100 motorcycles at the event exceeding last year by a little over 10%.

This year, we had almost 40 vendors with displays made up of retail vendors, food vendors, several non-profits, along with motorcycle clubs, and other members of the motorcycle community.

Ed Rutledge of ABATE of Alaska and Greg Porter of the Christian Motorcycle Association, and our emcee, did an incredible job organizing a multitude of volunteers to bring this event together.

The Alaska Vets MC lead the Rolling Thunder parade around the block and then presented the Colors and their Fallen Warrior Ceremony to open the event.



The Alaska Vets MC presenting the Colors to open the ceremony.

Photo Courtesy of Tracy Try

Later in the ceremony, representatives for both the Governor's and the Mayor's offices read their respective proclamations. (See pages 10 & 11)

David "Big Dave Grizzly" Monroe ABATE of Alaska, Board Chairman MRF State Rep Alaska MRF Reps Rep, MRF Board of Directors



That first time you hit the road again after a long hiatus, make sure your bike looks as good as you feel.

"Registration is now open for the 2017 Dragon's Last Ride!"



The 2015 ABATE of Alaska Break-Up Run to Sheep Creek Lodge.

How to gear up your passenger

Nothing would make me happier (well, except a free KTM SuperDuke GT) than if the phrase "just a passenger" were to fall off the vocabulary planet.

Too many times in the RevZilla Boutique I hear a rider say "Oh, (name) doesn't need any protection" because he or she is "just a passenger." Shut the front door. My view is that if someone trusts us enough to get on a motorcycle behind us, we are responsible for that person. New passengers, especially, typically don't know exactly what they need to wear to be safe or comfortable, so it's our job to help them.

Based on my years of educating people about gear and helping people find the right gear, here are my tips on how to get your passenger geared up.



Ron Webb Paving, Inc. Anything In Asphalt

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you is at the controls and which is just a passenger. You'll both hit the ground at the same time.

I know what you might be

thinking: But my buddy doesn't have \$2,000 to buy a fancy Klim suit like mine just for an occasional ride. That's fine! So, let's get geared up at a level they're comfortable with in terms of cost and style.

You can read the rest of the article Here at the RevZilla Website

GearChic RevZilla

Where to start: Having the talk

Sometimes, not all passengers are thrilled with the idea of gearing up, so it's important that you take a few minutes to educate your person and explain the risks. Having "the talk" is crucial. If it isn't obvious already. point out that their bodies are equally as important as yours and if something goes wrong the asphalt won't care which of

Joanne Donn

Katie's Story - The Dragon's Last Ride — August 2017



Katie was diagnosed with osteosarcoma (bone cancer) in her left tibia just three days after her 15th birthday and the start of high school. In just the first two months, Katie endured intense chemotherapy, limb salvage surgery to remove the tumor that required she have her entire left knee removed and replaced with titanium and stainless steel. In the ensuing 12 months, she continued with chemotherapy and experienced continuous infections, nausea, vomiting, frustration, disappointment, and immense

pain. She missed school, free teenage years, and special times with family and friends.

In July 2012, her end of treatment scans were clear of disease, however she still had a dangerous persistent infection in her leg. By the time her threemonth post treatment scans were performed, the cancer had returned and metastasized to both of her lungs.

She had four thoracotomies and one lobectomy to remove the cancer that kept coming back

again and again. Her scans in March 2014, revealed more tumors in her lung...again.

Katie had run out of treatment options.

Katie succumbed to the cancer on January 28, 2015.She packed so much life and love into her short 18 years and it was her wish to continue to help others wherever we could.

Please register for the ride at http://www.nwsarcoma.org/

Darlis Elliott



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2017 Bikers Inside the Beltway

This was my first "Bikers Inside the Beltway" and I left Washington, DC feeling like I had really accomplished a lot.

Alaska may be the largest state, but we have a very sparse population. We only have one Representative in DC along with our two Senators. Because of that, maintaining a personal and productive relationship with our legislators and their staffers is essential to our success. Working with each of them on an individual basis and getting their feedback so that our discussions are a two way conversation has been the primary reason we have been able to keep them engaged on the issues that our important to us.



There were six issues that we had write-ups for as points for discussion. I focused primarily on two in the meetings with my legislators. (I've followed up on all six issues via email since.) They were Motorcycle Profiling, which impacts me on a per-



sonal level as well as many of my brothers and sisters here in Alaska, and the Motorcyclists Advisory Council (MAC). All of my DC Legislators were very involved in previous letters concerning the MAC and all were unhappy with the lack of a formal answer and with rumors of no change in the current make-up being made. (The current MAC make-up only appear to set aside a single seat for specifically a motorcycle rider instead of the four seats in years past.) All three of my legislators agreed to follow-up with the FHWA on the issue and get answers, but Senator Sullivan was particularly annoyed that FHWA office has been so unresponsive. I am expecting big things from all three of them.

In our discussions about Motorcycle Profiling, I was able to relate personal experiences to each of them and also explain that the current bipartisan, bicameral resolutions (H.Res.318 and S.Res.154) were a great start on the federal level to pave with way for state anti-profiling legislation, the issues were also a federal issue and that federal agencies would need regulation as well. We discussed examples of that and each of them wanted more information beyond my personal experiences.



I was surprised when Representative Don Young suggested that we talk about autonomous vehicles and that he was very interested in both the MRF position and my personal opinions there.

As I noted above, I feel like this was a very productive trip and has paved the way for getting the Alaska Delegation more involved in the issues that we have the greatest concern over.

I look forward to May 2018 and the next BITB already!

David "Big Dave Grizzly" Monroe ABATE of Alaska, Board Chairman MRF State Rep Alaska MRF Reps Rep, MRF Board of Directors

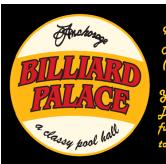


ABATE of Alaska is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

"First and foremost ABATE of Alaska is the Motorcycle Rights Organization for the state of Alaska."



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Boyd McFail helping road guard at the 2015 Eagle River Triathlon.

"ABATE of Alaska Road Guarding for the bicyclists in the Eagle River triathlon raises money for our Christmas In July Toy Run"



A volunteers bike parked during the 2015 Eagle River Triathlon.

The 2017 Eagle River Triathlon

Each year, the first Sunday in June marks the annual Eagle River Triathlon. And, for several of the past years each year, ABATE of Alaska has been there to Road Guard for the Bicycle course. ABATE of Alaska volunteers turn out to help the bicyclists stay on course and have a safe race.



The ABATE of Alaska volunteers at the end of the 2017 Eagle River Triathlon.

Some years, we are battling more rain than anything else, but in the last couple of years, we have also run off some curious bears and two years ago,



Pyro from Tooth and Claw giving a cyclist a lift in the 2015 Eagle River Triathlon.

one of volunteers helped a broken down cyclist get back to the race headquarters at Chugiak High School.

This partnership helps keep up a great relationship between

the two very diverse communities. In exchange, the Eagle River Triathlon makes a donation to ABATE of Alaska for our Christmas in July Toy Run.

ABATE of Alaska would like to thank the following groups for their support: The Ascendants RC, Green Knights MMC, B.A.C.A., Iron Wolves MC, Tooth and Claw, and the individual ABATE of Alaska volunteers.

David "Big Dave Grizzly" Monroe ABATE of Alaska, Board Chairman MRF State Rep Alaska MRF Reps Rep, MRF Board of Directors



The most important stat not on the spec sheet: Smiles per hour

What makes a particular model of motorcycle enjoyable to its owner? Does enjoyment rise with the cost? With the power or the amount of chrome?



Fast 40 years ago or fast today? The right motorcycle for you is the one that makes you smile.

Martin Moto owner Dennis Martin recently invited me to attend and help out with the Bonneville Demo Day at his dealership, which gave me a chance to sample the latest wares of Triumph's Modern Classics line, which are some of my favorite motorcycles, in terms of styling.

I was able to hop on any motorcycle during the many riding sessions conducted throughout the day, as long as it wasn't claimed by a potential paying customer (after all, Dennis is running a business).

I was able to ride, in succession, the Street Twin, T120
Bonneville, the Street Cup and the Thruxton. This gave me the opportunity to research an idea

I have expressed in Common Tread article comments: What makes a motorcycle the "right" motorcycle for you? What brings a rider the most smiles per hour?

You can read the rest of the article Here at the RevZilla Website

Tom Byrne Motorradical and cycleologist RevZilla



Street Riding Strategies For Dealing With Distracted Drivers

Adapt or die. It's not just for dinosaurs. Though it may sound extreme, as street motorcyclists we also have to recognize that our habitat is changing and we must change with it.

What am I talking about? A few months ago, in a short piece on trends in traffic fatalities in the United States, I talked about how I've adjusted my emphasis on where I position myself in the lane, based on my perception that distracted drivers had become so much more common. That sparked a discussion that has since grown to more than 300 comments, including a lot of good advice from our Common Tread readers (who continue to impress me as an engaged and intelligent audience).

My comments were little more than speculation, however, so I promised to follow up by consulting a real professional. So I called up Eric Trow, owner and instructor of Stayin' Safe Advanced Rider Training and the Riding Well columnist for Rider magazine.

CT: Is it just me or has the environment changed? Have you adjusted the curriculum of your training courses because of an increase in distracted driving?

ET: The answer is "absolutely." The people coming into our courses are asking about it. It's definitely on the minds of riders.



It's a relatively new phenomenon. If you go all the way back to the Hurt Report, rear-end collisions were so underrepresented it wasn't even really a factor. In the presentations I do, I talk about how motorcycles only crash for a handful of reasons and riders just continue to repeat the same mistakes over and over again. Well, now you can add another one to it. Now, for the first time, something that's not totally in our control but we have to adapt to.

CT: In my article, I wrote about how I had adjusted my thoughts on lane positioning, by putting more emphasis on being in the right tire track instead of the left tire track in traffic because of a concern that distracted drivers may not maintain lane discipline. But it seems you're putting more emphasis on the rear-end collisions.

ET: Without a doubt, we are putting more emphasis on picking up on the behaviors of drivers overall. You don't even have

to see the driver to be able to pick up on whether that driver is engaged. You see that slight weaving, or drifting out of the lane and back in, or driving more slowly than the rest of traffic.



Eric Trow gives a "chalk talk" lesson during a Stayin' Safe Advanced Rider Training instructional tour. Photo by Lance Oliver.

What you're talking about is taking that right wheel track position to give yourself a space cushion. Another one of the things we talk about is trying to spend as little time beside them as possible. If they're going slowly, get past them. But unfortunately, many times if they're going slowly, they're hanging in the left lane, too, if it's a multi-lane road. Avoid being in that red zone, that danger zone beside them. A lot of times when drivers are distracted, they're slowing down, so you can't just follow them and if you're in front of them you're more at their mercy, as

Read the rest of the article HERE at the Revzilla website.

Lance Oliver TeamZilla Managing Editor RevZilla



A.B.A.T.E. of Alaska works closely with our business partners

> "This allows business members to demonstrate, explain, and answer questions about their business to the membership"



MRF Press releases keep you informed of what is going on in our nation's capitol. Join the MRF today!



Without Bluetooth communicators, it would be impossible for Lemmy and Spurgeon to make some of their videos, or to argue over where they're going for lunch.

RevZilla photo.

"Why would you need a Bluetooth communication system? Because Google Maps and turn-by-turn navigation..."



Even if you ride alone, a communicator in your helmet can make navigation easier and safer. You can listen to turn-by-turn directions.

Photo by Justin W. Coffey.

How a Bluetooth communicator can save your ass

The only word I could get out of my mouth was "No!" Which was yelled, loudly, into the little microphone inside my helmet, and I presume, echoed equally as loudly inside Kyra's helmet on the other end.

It was dusk, with only a few, fleeting moments of southern sun on the horizon. We had been riding all day, making our way from New Orleans to Apalachicola, Florida, some 388 miles in total. We were tired. Kyra, unbeknownst to her, was about to pull out in front of large American sedan speeding ever so thoughtlessly through the dim daylight without its headlights on. I somehow saw the thing, or the shadow of a thing, and yelled that two-letter warning at the top of my lungs, just as she was preparing to turn into the driveway which led to that night's accommodations.

Kyra deals with direction well. She's a quick learner, as they say, managing to intake information, process and react faster than most people I've encountered. Certainly, more so than myself. So, when I hollered "No!" she took that as stop. Smart.

A big handful of brakes, her feet down, a complete stop. The hulking American sedan swerved slightly and proceeded into the evening. That night we talked about how close she'd come, and how glad we both were that our in-helmet communication systems were installed, charged and working correctly.

How a headset can save headaches

While this might have been the first time our SENA systems literally saved our asses, it cer-



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tainly wasn't the first time we'd avoided other sorts of problems, thanks to our ability to communicate while riding. Missed exits on the Interstate. Navigating Los Angeles. Herding my father across the country. Just a few examples of circumstances when our headsets saved us headaches, if not something more severe.

But for some people, there's a cost, and I'm not talking about the MSRP of the latest Bluetooth com system. When you install a headset system and pair it with another person, gone are the days of mindless miles, with nothing but pure engine sounds and dense air impacting your helmet to fill the vacant spaces between A and B. These are replaced instead by the standard sort of chit-chat that comes out of a couple, going over finances, figuring

out what to eat that evening, talking about an article you'd read earlier in the day.

I'm not complaining. Actually, I enjoy my ride more when Kyra and I can kick around ideas and argue about what to eat. But I suspect some riders prefer peace and quiet in their helmets.

What I can say, however, is that when the time comes to talk about what's happening around us — where to turn, things to avoid on the roadway, when to accelerate and pass a slowing moving semi, etc. — I wouldn't trade those 10 seconds for any amount of peace and quiet.

You can read the rest of the article Here at the RevZilla Website

Justin W. Coffey Duke Dangerpants RevZilla



The chopper show trend comes to the Southeast and the congregation rejoices

Just like all trends, the custom motorcycle scene is cyclical in nature. In the last 10 years, we have witnessed a resurgence in what are commonly referred to as choppers.



This long, lean Panhead was built by Prism Supply Co. for this year's Born-Free show.

Photo by Panhead Jim.

I am not talking about the reality TV rolling advertisements of the 1990s, but the long, narrow machines that came out of the 1960s and 1970s. A number of major motorcycle shows catering to this style of machine have cropped up around the country, like Born-Free in California, Mama Tried in Wisconsin and Fuel Cleveland in Ohio. Only invited builders are allowed to display their motorcycles in these shows, and while this may sound a little draconian, it does have the advantage of ensuring that only the best machines are included and that all the machines fit the vision of the show's producers. You don't want a big wheel bagger displayed front and center at a custom chopper show.



The other thing these shows have in common is that none are located on the East Coast. To remedy this situation, brothers Jake and Zach Hindes from Prism Supply Company, along with Dice Magazine, put together The Congregation Show, an invitational vintage motorcycle and hot rod event in what was originally a Ford factory located in downtown Charlotte, now known as Camp North End.

It's worth taking a minute just to describe the venue and its interesting history. The brick building has large plate glass windows stretching from floor to ceiling and is literally the size of one city block. The interior is almost completely open and floored in wood - not traditional long planks but four-bysix-inch pieces installed with the end grain facing up. The factory produced Model As in the 1920s and 1930s, but switched to tanks when WWII broke out. Missiles were also made there and the curious

wooden floor is said to have been key, as it did not produce any sparks if something was dropped. The windows were also painted over in order to keep spies from taking photos of our military operations inside the plant. It was definitely a cool place to host this type of event, with a lot more character and history than the typical convention center.

As I was lucky enough to be one of the invited builders, showing my 1933 Harley-Davidson VL, I was able to get into the venue early on Saturday and check things out before the crowds arrived.

As anyone with an old motorcycle can attest, the major issue with putting this many vintage machines inside one building is the high likelihood that some bikes will be leaking fuel. The fire marshal was not oblivious to this and required all batteries to be disconnected, gas caps to be taped over and gas tanks to be only a quarter full of fuel. Of course no amount of tape keeps my petcocks from leaking, but I decided it was best to keep that nugget of information to myself.

You can read the rest of the article Here at the RevZilla Website

Panhead Jim Vintage Guy at-Large RevZilla



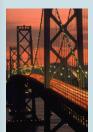
This photo shows about half of the building. Look halfway down the side and you can just make out two people by the door. This place was

massive.
Photo by Panhead Jim.

"As anyone with an old motorcycle can attest, the major issue with putting this many vintage machines inside one building is the high likelihood that some bikes will be leaking fuel."



Definitely the most radical machine on display.



Motorcyclists come from all walks of life.

"Lawmakers in the House are now turning their attention to selfdriving cars."



EPA Funding Slashed, Pruitt Faces Tough Questions.

Your Weekly Biker Bulletin from Inside the Beltway

RIDING FREE FROM DC:

Your Motorcycle Riders Foundation team in Washington, D.C. is pleased to provide our members with the latest information and updates on issues that impact the freedom and safety of American street motorcyclists. Count on your MRF to keep you informed about a range of matters that are critical to the advancement of motorcycling and its associated lifestyle. Published weekly when the U.S. Congress is in session.

NEWS FROM THE HILL – Autonomous Vehicle Legislation Speeds Through Committee Plus Dissent in the Senate over Healthcare

Lawmakers in the House are

now turning their attention to

self-driving cars. On Tuesday,

the House Commerce Subcommittee on consumer protection held a hearing on a slew of bills - 13 in total - to help scale back regulations and make it easier for autonomous vehicles to hit the road. Among the bills is a measure that would prohibit regulators from requiring pre-market approval for selfderiving cars. Another measure would give up to 100,000 cars a year exemptions from regulations that the industry says are geared toward traditional vehicles. Lawmakers also looked at legislation on how cars could share data and considered establishing a cybersecurity advisory panel as concerns grow over the self-driving vehicles' and the threat of hacks. The issue has been receiving more attention from Congress in the last few weeks, as lawmakers struggle to keep pace with the rapidly emerging new technology. The MRF is continuing to pound the pavement, making sure that motorcyclists have a voice and seat at the table when it comes to these types of vehicles.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell shelved plans for the Senate to vote this week on the Republicans' proposed Obamacare repeal, suffering an embarrassing setback as he acknowledged the bill he wrote failed to win over enough troops in his own party. Republican leaders insisted they will try again in July, but they struggled to explain how they might bridge the gap within their party, where conservatives want the bill to further dismantle Obamacare while moderates say it already goes too far. Critics of the Republican party and current Administration will undoubtedly chalk this up to a win. They have already been vocal about the lack of promises kept by the party including tax reform, infrastructure revitalization and now healthcare... stay tuned.

EXECUTIVE & REGULATORY UPDATES - EPA Funding Slashed, Pruitt Faces Tough Questions

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt was on the Hill this week to testify for the second time on the administration's proposal to massively slash his agency's funding by 31%. Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski, who chairs the committee, is already on the record as not being a big fan of EPA's proposed cuts. She noted that while she supports Pruitt's approach of focusing on the EPA's central responsibilities while steering away from the climate policies of the Obama administration, the current budget proposal is "in direct contrast" to such an approach. Pruitt defended the proposal saying that the Agency could live up to its mission and focus on safeguarding the nation's air and water with better leadership and less waste. The Trump administration would reduce EPA's funding by \$2.4 billion annually — a larger percentage cut than at any other federal

agency and eliminate all funding for research on climate change. Your MRF is watching the EPA closely, those who ride know that the Agency has always been a thorn in the side of motorcyclists.

NEWS FROM THE STATES: TEXAS - Motorcycle Safety Fund SLASHED

We received word from our partners in Texas this week that the Governor eliminated half of the funding for the Department of Public Safety Motorcycle Safety Unit for the 2018-2019 calendar years. This set the Motorcycle Safety program back to 2005 levels; a scary thought when motorcyclist fatalities are increasing. Knowing the funding is vital, your MRF helped to spread the word by alerting our members in the State and drafting letters to be sent to both federal and state lawmakers as well as the Governor through our software program. In the meantime, our brothers and sisters in Texas are keeping the pressure up on lawmakers communicating that this is unacceptable. If you live in Texas or have family and friends in the state who ride, send them this link and ask for their help! It takes about 2 minutes and helps get us on the record as being OPPOSED!

TELL THE TEXAS GOVERNOR TO RESTORE FUNDING FOR MOTORCYCLE SAFETY!

RIDE FREE-



Megan J. Ekstrom Vice-President, Government Affairs & Public Relations Motorcycle Riders Foundation 1325 G Street N.W. Suite 500 Washington, D.C. 20005 Phone: (202) 725-5471 Fax: (202) 546-0986 www.mrf.org





MRF Press releases keep you informed of what is going on in our nation's capitol. Join the MRF today!

BIKERS INSIDE THE BELTWAY BRINGS HUNDREDS TO WASHINGTON

For Immediate Release

May 31, 2016

WASHINGTON, DC - Last week, over 100 motorcyclists made the trek to Washington, DC to connect with elected officials from across the country in support of motorcyclists' rights. Participants included Members of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation, State Motorcycle Rights Organizations (SMROs) and representatives from NCOM, as well as motorcycle clubs all across the country. More than 300 meetings with Members of Congress and their staff took place on May 23.

Dozens of motorcycles lined third Street in front of the U.S. Capitol as rights advocates prepared to discuss issues critical to the 2017 legislative agenda. Among these included supporting the RPM Act, ensuring motorcyclists had a voice within the emerging area of autonomous vehicles, and the reestablished Motorcycle Advisory Council, as well as recommendations concerning the definition of a motorcycle. Notably, participants asked their legislators to support and cosponsor recently introduced legislative measures citing concerns over the profiling of motorcyclists (H.Res.318 and S.Res154).

Every meeting marked another



critical step forward in building and maintaining relationships with congressional offices, and each meeting provided the opportunity to communicate directly with a wide array of lawmakers who are currently considering legislation that would affect the rights of motorcyclists. The event also helped to educate and raise awareness among elected officials about the challenges many motorcyclists face on our nation's highways. This was demonstrated in an event held in Cannon House Office Building, which allowed Members of Congress and their staff to experience these challenges first hand by using a SMARTrainer which simulates some of the situations riders experience. The SMARTrainer event, sponsored by MRF Awareness & Education, was hosted by Congressman Dave Loebsack of lowa and was widely-attended.

President of the Board of Directors for the Motorcycle Riders

Foundation Kirk 'Hardtail' Willard said, "This mobilization of riders from across our nation delivered crucial messages ensuring our voice is heard in Washington. With every Member of Congress representing hundreds of thousands of constituents, this event allows riders to deliver our message in person and hold our lawmakers accountable for protecting our right to ride."

About Motorcycle Riders Foundation

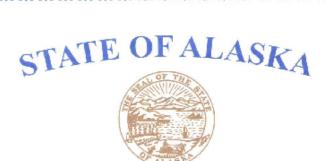
The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) provides leadership at the federal level for states' motorcyclists' rights organizations as well as motorcycle clubs and individual riders. The MRF is chiefly concerned with issues at the national and international levels that impact the freedom and safety of American street motorcyclists. The MRF is committed to being a national advocate for the advancement of motorcycling and its associated lifestyle and works in conjunction with its partners to help educate elected officials and policymakers in Washington and beyond.

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"Dozens of motorcycles lined third Street in front of the U.S. Capitol as rights advocates prepared to discuss issues critical to the 2017 legislative agenda."



Every meeting marked another critical step forward.



Executive Proclamation by Governor Bill Walker

WHEREAS, Alaska's road systems run along some of the world's most scenic landscapes, offering adventurous motorcyclists and motor scooter riders many unique and spectacular rides; and

WHEREAS, motorcycles and motor scooters have become an increasingly popular and prevalent mode of transportation throughout our nation and state; and

WHEREAS, motorcycles are motor vehicles with the same roadway rights, responsibilities, privileges as other motor vehicles, and should be treated with the same courtesy and care as any other motorist. Drivers are urged to share the road with motorcyclists, not to tailgate riders, and watch for motorcyclists approaching from behind, particularly in a vehicle's blind spot; and

WHEREAS, the growth in numbers of registered motorcycles in Alaska in recent years has coincided with an increase in the number of crashes involving motorcycles, and a subsequent increase in fatalities; and

WHEREAS, motorcyclists and motor scooter riders can help ensure their own safety by attending a motorcycle rider training course; wearing helmets, eye protection, and other protective gear; checking the motorcycle before riding, remaining constantly alert; being as conspicuous as possible on the road; and obeying all traffic laws; and

WHEREAS, as weather and conditions improve, motorcyclists across Alaska will take to the roads once again. By practicing smart and defensive riding and driving, we can ensure a safe and enjoyable season.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Walker, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim. May 2017 as:

Motorcycle and Motor Scooter Awareness Month

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaska's bikers to enjoy safe motorcycling in Alaska, and urge all drivers, motorcyclists, and motor scooter riders to share the road safely and respectfully with each other.

Dated: May 1, 2017



Bill Walker, Governor who has also authorized the seal of the State of Alaska to be affixed to this proclamation.



True or False

(A Biker Quiz, by Raz)

If you are injured in a motorcycle accident, your medical insurance will always cover your health care expenses.

False – Federal law allows your insurance company to deny coverage if you are injured while participating in a "recreational activity" even if it's a legal activity.

You can build as many custom bikes as you can afford!

False – Beginning in 2006, you may build ONE custom bike that does not meet EPA emission standards. That's ONE bike IN YOUR LIFETIME. IF it's stolen, wrecked, etc., it does not matter. It's the last bike like that you can build.

Your state will always allow you to take your child or grandchild for rides on your motorcycle.

False – Watch your legislation. Some states are changing their laws so that this is now illegal.

Some states have no mandatory helmet use laws, and if your state is one of them, you do not need to be involved in legislative issues.

False – There are other issues in addition to helmet laws that affect you. Have you read the above questions?

There are lots of other people making sure that these kinds of laws aren't passed, or are changed.

False – Less than 1% of motorcyclists belong to and support Motorcycle Rights Organizations. Belonging to a MRO adds more voices to be heard by your senators and representatives, and membership dues help support the cause of motorcycle rights. Do you want the way you ride dictated to you by insurance companies, doctors, and non-riding safety groups? They are loud and have lots of money. Guess what the politicians listen to? Money and constituent voices!

Check out these websites and join the cause. YOU can make a difference but you need to act now!

NCRider.com – for an explanation of issues facing motorcyclists.

MRF.org – for (Federal) motorcycle rights issues in Washington.

RAZ is a motorcycle rights activist from North Carolina and can be reached at dragonglide91@yahoo.com

Who Are Your Friends?

I like to know who my friends are. I like to know who helps me ride safer and who is working against me. Unfortunately, most riders don't know who their friends are. They don't realize that there is an organization in Washington, DC that has been working for them for the past 20 years. This organization works to make sure that the best interests of motorcyclists' are represented when motorcycle-related issues come up in the US government.

That organization is the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF). The MRF has a full-time lobbyist and office in DC and they are funded by memberships. Most riders don't know about the MRF so they don't support the MRF. I know about the MRF and they are my friends.

The MRF is fighting to make sure my medical claims are paid by my insurance company should I get hurt on my motorcycle. They are fighting to secure funding for rider training and road improvements. Road improvements that include paving streets and fixing pot holes. Riding on safe roads is important to me. They have pressured the EPA for my right to modify and customize my bike – a right that whether you realize it or not – we are losing! The MRF is a national motorcyclists' rights organization (MRO) that is working for the rights of all of America's motorcyclists. The MRF is our voice in Washington, DC and lobbies for fair federal level motorcycle legislation. They also support riders on state level legislative issues as well.

The MRF are not "sport bikers". They are not "Harley people". They are not a "white guys organization", they are not a "black biker organization", they are not a "Hispanic bikers organization", etc. They are bikers! It's not about color, and it's not about the style of riding you do or the type of bike you own.

When a bill turns into a law in Washington, DC, it affects all bikers regardless of race and type of bike. The MRF is bi-partisan. They are partisan about one thing and one thing only – motorcycling. They are women and men of every race, creed, and political party devoted to one cause – riders' rights and safety. MRF members are committed to each other as brothers and sisters.

The MRF's public policy interests are the protection of riders' interests across the board: Highway safety, personal liberty, law enforcement, health care, discrimination, public opinion, highway access, and the relationship between federal power and state prerogatives. They also pressure regulatory agencies like EPA, NHTSA, and NTSB to stay away from discriminatory rulings against motorcyclists.

The MRF was started in 1984 by motorcyclists, and to this day is run by motorcyclists. All financial support for the organization is generated from within the motorcycling population.

This is your chance to thank your friends. Help the people who have been helping you for 20 years. They will keep you informed about issues that directly affect you. The only way to keep yourself educated on the issues that face bikers is to join the MRF and understand what they are doing for you. Joining the MRF costs \$30 per year. Compare that to the value you place on riding. How much did that last piece of chrome cost?

Don't forget to thank your friends in Washington, DC by joining the MRF. You can join online at http://www.mrf.org

Vinny Neuman

Protect your Freedoms!

Join your state SMRO and the MRF today!

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Serving Alaska's children in foster care and children at risk of going into foster care through the love of Christ.

> "Serving Alaska's children in foster care and children at risk of going into foster care through the love of Christ."





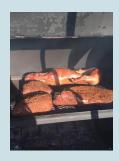




Disciple Christian MC

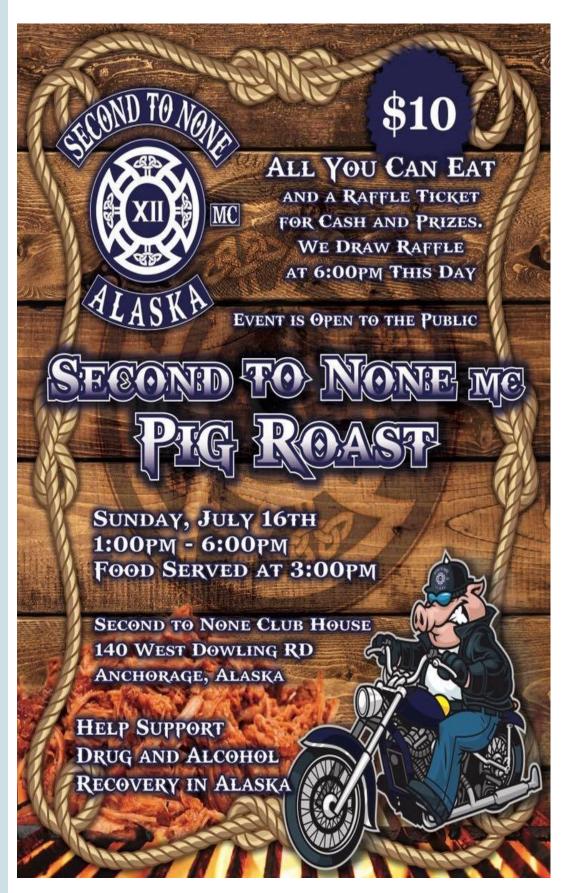
Disciple Christian
Motorcycle Club
invites you to the
King of the
Mountain Run on
July 15th 2017.
This run is to
benefit a group
called The Battle
Dawgs.

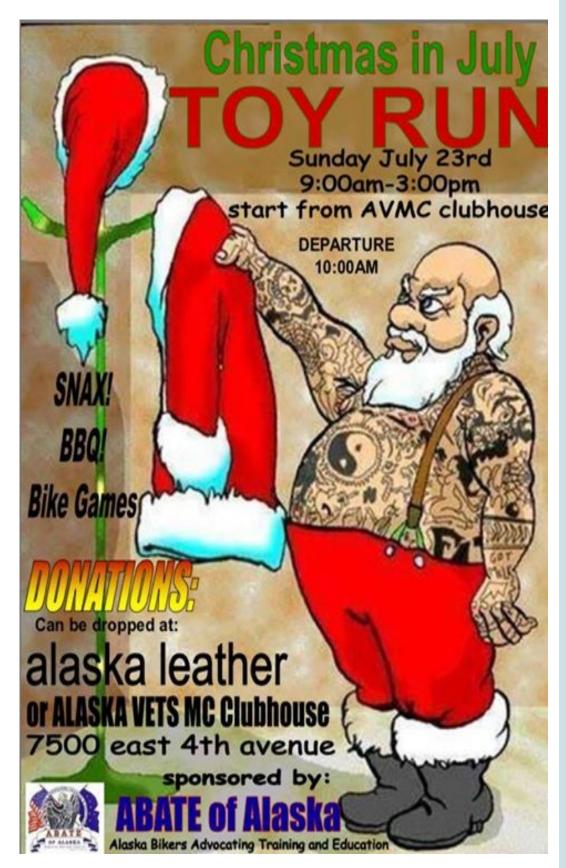




"Help Support Drug and Alcohol Recovery in Alaska"









2016 Christmas In July staging for the run.

"ABATE of Alaska is dedicated to bringing some joy to displaced children and their families during the summer season. "



2016 Christmas In July Santa and his Elves outside ANMC.



"The Alaska VA is

serving Alaska's

veteran

community."





DIRECTOR'S CHOICE BIKE COMPETITION!

OPEN TO ALL MOTORCYCLE RIDERS

(VETERANS AND NON-VETERANS)

ALASKA VA HEALTHCARE SCREENINGS VBA CLAIMS CLINIC MOTORCYCLE RALLY: 10AM – 2PM (KICKSTANDS UP AT 1 P.M.)



HEALTHCARE SCREENINGS



VBA CLAIMS CLINIC



ENROLLMENT AND ELIGIBILITY (ENROLLMENT AND VAIDS)



VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS WILL BE ON-HAND

FOOD WILL BE AVAILABLE VENDORS WILL BE ON-HAND ENTERTAINMENT

LOCATION OF EVENT:

ALASKA VA HEALTHCARE MULDOON CLINIC 1201 NORTH MULDOON ROAD ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

All voluntary monetary donations of \$10 per rider will be graciously accepted to help our Veterans in need.





FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Samuel Hudson: 907-257-5490 or Samuel.Hudson@va.gov

Jamie Carlson: 907-257-4802 or Jamie.Carlson@va.gov





A motorcycle ride supporting pediatric sarcoma cancer patients.

Register at www.nwsarcoma.org

Staging begins at Anchorage House of Harley-Davidson, 4334

Spenard Rd at 10:00am.

Kickstands up at 10:45am.

Ride to Tug Bar Goose Bay Inn at Mile 18.5 Knik-Goose Bay Rd in Wasilla where Terri Cornelius and crew will have put together a delicious meal.

\$50 per rider

(Passengers must also register. Includes: entry, t-shirt, lunch, and raffle)

\$40 Per Rider (No T-Shirt)

\$20 Lunch & Raffle Only (for non-riders)

\$15 T-Shirt Only

The Dragon's Last Ride funds the Jenna Westerholm Pediatric Help\$ Program. \$1000.00 grants to families are administered by Northwest Sarcoma Foundation to families in Alaska, Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. The ride originated in Washington in memory of Jenna. It continues here now in memory of Katie, a young lady dear to many in the Alaska motorcycle community who lost her life to the dragon January 28, 2015.

Please join us or help spread the word to help us raise money for families directly affected by childhood sarcoma. **THIS IS NOT A HARLEY RIDE** All bikes are welcome.







Wristbands from the 2016 Dragon's Last Ride

"Benefits the NW Sarcoma Foundation's Jenna Pediatric HELP\$ program, which provides \$1000 grants to families of pediatric sarcoma cancer patients. "



Riders checking in for the 2016 Dragon's Last Ride

Help Support ABATE of Alaska By Purchasing Advertising in This Newsletter

Did you know that you can purchase advertising space in future editions of this newsletter?

You can reach out to our members with your unique message.

ABATE of Alaska publishes our very own newsletter up to four times a year and emails or prints out 350 to 500 copies to distribute directly to our members.

display at our Business Member locations, and also to hand out the motorcycle community events that our members attend.

Running your advertisements in our newsletter is a great way to not only support ABATE of Alaska, but also show our members that you support ABATE as well.

ABATE of Alaska always encourages our membership to frequent the businesses that support our freedom to ride and rights.

For more information, please contact us at: pr@abateofalaska.com

Ken Coston ABATE of Alaska Membership Coordinator Public Relations Coordinator

Ad Size	Approx. Dimension	Member Price	Full Price	
Business Card	1.7" x 3.0"	Free	\$15.00	
1/4 Page	4.75" X 3.5"	\$20.00	\$25.00	
1/2 Page	9.5" x 7.2"	\$35.00	\$45.00	
Full Page	9.5" x 3.5"	\$75.00	\$100.00	

Our Signs at the Three Angels Memorial Track

June was a great month as we added a new sign to the Three Angels Memorial Track. When asked if he was interested in becoming a business member Hal (owner of Team CC) jumped at the chance. The next step was sharing pictures of the already in place signage on the Three Angels Memorial Track. Hal immediately displayed excitement of having a Team CC sign on the fence. We went through the process of coming up with the format for their sign. Team CC created the concept and design for the unique and eye catching sign added to the fence at the track. This is one of the great ways our business partners can show the community they believe and support the motorcycle safety message Abate of Alaska is getting out to all.

When out and about make sure to visit our business sponsors (located throughout the newsletter) and "thank" them for being a partner with Abate of Alaska. Look for the Abate of Alaska stickers on their door.

Please stop by the Three Angels Memorial track and see their amazing contribution and if you are interested in having your business's sign here, please contact Ken Coston at

pr@abateofalaska.com.

Ken Coston ABATE of Alaska Membership Coordinator Public Relations Coordinator







Donate to ABATE of Alaska When You Shop at Online at Amazon

YOU CAN HELP ABATE OF ALASKA EARN DONATIONS JUST BY SHOPPING ON AMAZON!

Support Abate of Alaska, Inc.

When you shop at **smile.amazon.com**, Amazon donates.

Go to smile.amazon.com

amazonsmile

Did you know you can shop on Amazon as you normally do and donate to ABATE of Alaska?

Please go to https://smile.amazon.com/ch/92-0095913 to select ABATE of Alaska and then shop using http://smile.amazon.com.

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic

way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support but we hope that you'll choose us.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

Can I change my charity?

Yes, you can change your charity any time. Your AmazonSmile purchases after the change count towards your newly selected charity.

Can you use AmazonSmile through your mobile Amazon app?

Not at this time. You'll need to shop using your web browser to access https://smile.amazon.com.

I have more questions. Where can I get more info about AmazonSmile?

Just click here to learn even more about AmazonSmile: https://

Donate to ABATE of Alaska When You Shop at Fred Meyer



YOU CAN HELP ABATE OF ALASKA EARN DONATIONS JUST BY SHOPPING WITH YOUR FRED MEYER REWARDS CARD!

Fred Meyer is donating \$2.5 million per year to non-profits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, based on where their customers tell them to give. Here's how the program works:

- Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to ABATE of Alaska at <u>www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards</u>. You can search for us by our name or by our non-profit number **92866**.
- Every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping ABATE of Alaska earn a donation!
- You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today.
- If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.
- For more information, please visit <u>www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards</u>.

Please check the Alaska Biker Runs calendar for the most up-to-date info:

http://www.akbikerruns.com



Alaska Biker Runs

July 2017 Biker Runs

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	20		30	Jul 1
9:30am 8th Annual Ride for a Cure			6pm Hog Chapter 66 Wednesday Night Ri			Military Appreciation Day - All three south
10am Sunday Cruise from Kenai Peninsula			6pm Matsu Hog 1836 Weekly Ride			10:30am Amvets Riders Alaska Chapter 2
1pm Second to None MC Pig Roast		7pm Valley CMA Tues Night Ride	6pm Ascendants Weekly Ride			
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		10am Kenai Peninsula Hogs in the Kenai 4 6pm Hog Chapter 66 Wednesday Night Ric 7pm ABATE Board Meeting		Wasilla Centenial Car & Cycle Show - Curtis D. Menard Memorial Sports Center, 1001 3		
			6pm Matsu Hog 1836 Weekly Ride			9am Hog Chapter 66 Saturday Ride
			6pm Ascendants Weekly Ride			10:30am Free Intro to Group Riding
			6pm Kenai peninsula Hog Chapter ride			+3 more
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Wasilla Centenial Car & Cycle Show - C		6pm LFMCC Rides - All are welcome	6pm Hog Chapter 66 Wednesday Night Ri			Live Ride for Beacon Hill - House of Harley
Sam Matsu Hog 1836 LOH Ride to Glennall		6pm Free Group Riding Class	6pm Matsu Hog 1836 Weekly Ride			10am Disciple Christian Motorcycle Club -
		7pm Valley CMA Tues Night Ride	6pm Ascendants Weekly Ride			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		Womens Moto Exhibit Wild Ones Tour - TBA				
				Valley Abate general membership - Amer		Bike Rally at the Tug Bar - Tug Bar & Liquo
			6pm Hog Chapter 66 Wednesday Night Ri	7pm Abate General Membership Meeting		10am Soldotna Progress Days parade
		7pm Valley CMA Tues Night Ride	+2 more			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Womens Moto Exhibit Wild Ones Tour - TE						
Bike Rally at the Tug Bar - Tug Bar & Liqu			6pm Hog Chapter 66 Wednesday Night Ri			ALL CHAPTER Hog Homer Overnighter - I
9am ABATE Christmas in July			6pm Matsu Hog 1836 Weekly Ride			10am Next Generation VA Benefit
		7pm Valley CMA Tues Night Ride	6pm Ascendants Weekly Ride			6pm Fight Night Bike Night UFC at Klondik
30	31	Aug 1		3	4	5
Womens Moto Exhibit Wild Ones Tour -			6pm Hog Chapter 66 Wednesday Night Ri	7pm ABATE Board Meeting		Military Appreciation Day - All three south
ALL CHAPTER Hog Homer Overnighter -			6pm Ascendants Weekly Ride			10:30am Free Intro to Group Riding
10am Kenai Hog ride to Homer		7pm Valley CMA Tues Night Ride				
1pm Valley Tattoo Party						

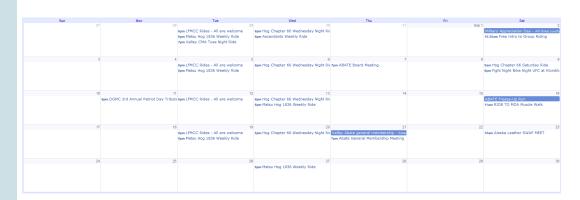
August 2017 Biker Runs





Boyd McFail working the 2015 Eagle River Triathlon

September 2017 Biker Runs



ABATE of Alaska is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the rights and promoting the safe riding practices of Alaskan motorcycle enthusiasts.

ABATE of Alaska is a freedom of choice organization. We embrace the maxim "Let Those Who Ride Decide." We believe that the rider is best able to decide the type of motorcycle to ride, and the type and extent of safety gear worn. Our objectives include monitoring motorcycle related legislation locally and nationally; offering affordable rider safety courses as prescribed by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation; and demonstrating our commitment to civic affairs through charitable measures.

ABATE of Alaska offers activities and the brotherhood of fellow motorcyclists. We stand for the rights of ALL motorcyclists to ensure that we and our children will be able to enjoy the freedoms we hold so dear. Membership is open to everyone interested in preserving personal freedoms.

ABATE of Alaska Business Member Listings

Support these businesses who support your freedom to ride!

Alaska Leather

House of Harley Davidson

Foster & Co. LLC

Bosco's

Neighbors Windows & Doors

Anchorage Billiard Palace

Ron Webb Paving

The Motorcycle Shop

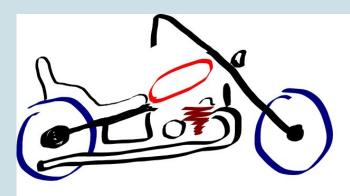
Pen Dragon Alaska

Denali Alaskan Federal C.U.

Alaska Mining & Diving

Team CC

C'N'R Services





A.B.A.T.E. of Alaska, Inc "Riders of the Last Frontier"

P.O. Box 92213 Anchorage, Alaska 99509-2213

Rider Education Phone: 907-562-2324

http://www.learntoridealaska.com



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ABATE OF ALASKA APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP You may also JOIN US online at www.abateofalaska.com Sustaining Membership \$100 1 Year Membership \$20 3 Year Membership \$50 Update Info Renewal Charge Card ____ Cash _ Card Sent ___ Date Sent. ABATE of Alaska Contact . By signing this application, I agree to waive any and all claims against ABATE of Alaska, Inc., its officers, board of FFICI directors, and general members for any personal or property loss or damage which may occur as a result of my participation in ABATE of Alaska, Inc. functions. I understand that ABATE of Alaska, Inc. cannot and will not assume responsibility for my safety and that if I participate in any ABATE of Alaska, Inc. sponsored ride or event I do so A voluntarily, and I assume all risks. I release and hold ABATE of Alaska, Inc. harmless for any personal injury or property loss, which may result therefrom. I agree not to sue ABATE of Alaska, Inc. or any property owner for any injury or USE damage that may occur as a result of my own or my guests participation in any ABATE of Alaska, Inc. sponsored event. I agree to reimburse ABATE of Alaska, Inc. for any and all losses it may suffer as a result therefrom. 0 PLEASE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE AGREEMENT AND SIGN BELOW Member Signature and Date Please mail payment with this application to: ABATE of Alaska, Inc PO Box 92213 Anchorage, AK 99509-2213 Suggestions for ABATE: VISA Card# MC Exp. Date ΑX Signature