

## **BIKERS TEACHING MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AND AWARENESS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

With the ever increasing number of registered motorcycles in the state (greater than 500,000), not to mention the tens of thousands of additional bikes that converge in Daytona Beach for Bike events twice a year, ABATE of Florida, Inc., Florida's largest "Grass Roots" Motorcycle Rights Organization recognized the need for a more safe riding experience on Florida's highways and streets.

This realization has resulted in the only "Motorcycle Safety and Awareness" program (MSAP) to be presented in public forums free of charge. MSAP is designed to educate and help drivers understand the proper and safest way to share the road with motorcycles, preventing accidents and saving lives (we do not teach individuals how to ride a motorcycle). Recently, ABATE of Florida's State President James "Doc" Reichenbach met with Governor Bush, presenting him with a copy of our most recent video education effort which has been well received at the Capitol.

In 2003, Governor Bush proclaimed the month of May to be "Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month", his actions illustrates the crucial importance of both driver and rider education. The Daytona Beach Chapter of ABATE of Florida, Inc. concurs with this importance, and is taking action. Brenda Heck, Safety Director for the Chapter, has confirmed with three (3) of Volusia County High Schools, to bring MSAP into the Driver's Education Program.

In forty-five minutes, each of class will be taught hand signals, how to share the road with motorcycles, how to determine the rate of speed of a motorcycle vs. the same rate of speed of an 18 wheeler, they will hear from experienced motorcyclists, the biggest obstacles that they face while riding and after the presentation, they got a chance to get an "up close" look at the motorcycles.

It is the goal of the Daytona Beach Chapter to incorporate this program into every High School's Drivers Education Program in Volusia County, every Company that holds a safety meeting and any other public forum that would welcome the information in this program. If you would like to schedule a presentation in your school, company or establishment, please contact us.