



"A Hand for the Downed Rider"

The Helping Rider

A.I.M VANCOUVER

104 ~ Fall ~ 2010



GF Strong Show & Shine 2010

Above, from left, Mark & Jan, staff at GF Strong and, Dave and Gary whom most of you know. This year AIM picked up 2 portable basket ball units as the others were done. Within the week, the Staff at GF had the units in place, added 900 lbs of sand to fill the bottoms. The patients have been without these units for over 6 month, so it was a joy to see everyone using them. Again the Client poker run was a blast, the smiles and laughter are priceless! We hope to see many of you show up next year as this event is very beneficial to the patients and families. Many thanks to those riders who braved the sprinkle of rain and to Smitty from AZZKIKR's Customs for bringing one of the previous patients scooter to enter the Show & Shine. And to the Gospel Riders who are strong supporters of this event and do an awesome job cooking. (More on back page)



To the left, The Ovations, who have played fine music for the patients and their families for years at the GF Strong Show & Shine. Compliments are always flowing for these guys, they are

"HELPING INJURED RIDERS SINCE 1983"

Serving over 250,000 on-and-off road motorcyclists throughout the province, A.I.M. is a benevolent, non-profit society registered under the provincial Societies Act and holding a Federal Charitable Tax Number. A.I.M. is committed to assisting injured motorcyclists by providing legal assistance, knowledge of rights, assistance with emotional support as well as regular hospital visits and helping with aspects of recovery not covered by other agencies. It is operated solely by volunteers and relies on memberships and donations for funding.

www.aimvancouver.com



The Helping Rider

#104 ~ Fall ~ 2010

Vancouver A.I.M.

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The Association For Injured Motorcyclists
Vancouver Chapter

Free to all interested readers.
Advertisements are welcome.
Articles and letters to the editor are also welcome.

Disclaimer

We welcome your input, articles printed in the newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Association For Injured Motorcyclists

CHAPTERS

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AIM meetings

Third Thursday of the Month 7:00 pm
DAVIDSON PIT STOP RESTAURANT
16225 Fraser Hwy, Surrey, BC
All are Welcome! Rain or Shine!
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Newsletter Ad Rates

Size issues	\$ per Issue	\$ per 4 issues
1/8 of page (B card)	40	150
1/4 page	80	300
1/2 page	160	600

Just a reminder, you do not need to be a member for us to visit, nor do we judge whose fault it is. We are here to assist. So call us if you need info, a visit.

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Nominations & Elections

Association for Injured Motorcyclists Nominations, October 21, 2010

Elections November 18, 2010

All of us on the Aim board are volunteers, some are non-riders, very long time riders, and or grew up around riders all our lives. We have seen a lot during those years and some of us lost dear friends to bike accidents.

Would like to say a BIG thanks to the Directors and volunteers who support and volunteered.

Please come to the meeting and join us. We do need your assistance as it has been a REALLY busy this year. As a Member, your vote counts. If you are a Non-Member, become a Member and vote.

If you don't want to be a member, that's ok too, just come visit, enjoy, as everyone is welcome. Just so you know, all positions need to be filled. Some of the directors would like to retire or sit back on the sidelines and help when needed. So if you choose to run for a position, you won't be walking in blind. Also remember, one does not need to be on the board to volunteer.

You count, so join us!

AIM Nomination & Elections

7:00 pm third Thursday in Oct and Nov at

DAVIDSON PITSTOP RESTAURANT

16225 Fraser Hwy, Surrey, BC

All are Welcome! Rain or Shine!

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The poster features a cartoon character of a person with a stump for a leg, wearing a cap and holding a sign that says 'Fraser Valley Stumps R Us Friendly Amputees'. To the right is the 'Association for Injured Motorcyclists' logo, which includes a red circle with 'A.I.M.' and 'ASSOCIATION FOR INJURED MOTORCYCLISTS' text. The main title 'OUT ON A LIMB' is in large, stylized letters, with '2010' written vertically next to it. Below it, it says '1st Annual Motorcycle Show & Shine'. The date 'Saturday, October 2, 2010' is prominently displayed. The location is listed as 'at DAVIDSON Pit Stop Restaurant' with the address '16225 Fraser Highway, Surrey, BC'. The poster also includes sections for 'All Motorcycles Welcome', 'Presenting Amputee Classes', 'REGISTRATION' (starts at 9 AM), 'ENTRANCE FEE BY DONATION' (Vendor Spots Available - 604-626-0711), and a list of categories for judging: Softail, Swingarm, Touring, Sport Bike, Import, Homebuilt, Custom, Vintage, Scooter, Special Interest, 2 Wheel Amputee, 3 Wheel Amputee, Powder Puff Special, Best Paint, Peoples' Choice. There are also images of motorcycles and trophies.

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Aim Visitations

The visitation teams are well trained and attend Patient Team meetings, Brain Injury seminars.

Our Fearless Leader, Gary Richardson, head of Visitations, keeps us in line with cake and cookies.

Not to forget the dairy queen Ice-cream cake that melted on the way to a birthday party held at a patients room at GF Strong. Lol, was a real melt down. Currently there are 2 full time teams consisting of 2 people in each team.

We have been reduced to the 2 teams because of ones medical condition and then other partner who works full time and also offers his services as a barber to the patients for free.

There are 5 other volunteers who visit when able. I just want to say Kudo's to all the Visitations Volunteers! The visitation volunteers know the rewards, by the positive attitude from the patients after a couple of visits, their smiling faces greeting you on a first name basis. There is no way to describe the elation I feel visiting you injured riders. You make my day.

Thank you!
James (Scruffy) Williams
The Gasoline Cowboy



FREE BEER FREE BEER FREE BEER

Now that I have your attention, I would like to tell you about our 10th Annual Ride In Show 'n' Shine at the G. F. Strong Rehabilitation Centre on August 8. Although the beer truck never showed up, much to everyone's disappointment, there were lots of hot dogs and burgers and soft drinks available. They must have been good because we hear that one G F Strong resident belted down six burgers - all the more power to him – that's who they are for!.

Despite the rain, quite a few bikers showed up to snag the trophies. Oh, did I mention the rain? Yeah, there was a little bit that sprinkled throughout the day. But that didn't stop the event. Those who used wheelchairs still went on the infamous poker run (relax folks, AIM got a gambling license) and used their umbrellas.

The band Ovations relocated inside the gymnasium and everyone sat inside at the tables listening to the band and asking when the keg was going to arrive. Oh, did I mention the rain? Yeah, there was a little bit that sprinkled throughout the day.

Many thanks to the staff at G F Strong who were instru-

mental in setting up the facilities to make this happen. Particular thanks to Mark and Jan on the Rehabilitation Team for their help in this regard. Thanks also to the judges Rocky Weinstein, myself and Chief Judge Ron Szoeczi for enduring the rain to ensure all the bikes were judged fairly. Oh, did I mention the rain? Yeah, there was a little bit that sprinkled throughout the day.

Also in attendance helping out was Marsha Thompson from the "Stumps R Us" amputee support group from the northern Fraser Valley.

We were able to donate two new basketball hoops/stands for the residents at G F Strong. These can be moved around to the best positions in the gym. The next day the facilities staff were assembling them and putting them in place and the following day the residents were scoring baskets from their wheelchairs with big smiles.

We look forward to next year. Oh, did I mention the rain? Yeah, there was a little bit that sprinkled throughout the day.

Gary Richardson, Visitation Director

Motorcyclist Awareness & Recognition Trainer

<http://www.msf-usa.org/smartrainer/>

The revolutionary new Honda SMARTrainer packages hardware and software in one of the most engaging instructional tools ever offered to the rider training community.

It combines a personal computer, an advanced safety -training program and a video monitor, plus a handlebar, seat, footrests and all the standard controls found on a real motorcycle.

Riders experience and respond to a variety of on-screen scenarios as they travel along virtual streets and highways. To succeed in this world of pixels and bytes, students have to make the right decisions as they Search, Evaluate and Execute - SEESM - their way past computer-generated cars, trucks and pedestrians.



The objective of the on-road simulation is to safely negotiate a series of routes, while developing effective road hazard awareness. Fifteen different routes under a variety of road and environmental conditions are in the training package, so there are plenty of challenges.

The SMARTrainer creates a virtual environment, but the lessons learned are real.

The SMARTrainer complements and reinforces the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's SEE strategy for managing risk: Search, Evaluate, Execute.

Novice riders, graduates, and experienced riders can all practice in realistic traffic situations that require the operator to evaluate and address traffic hazards and traps -- in a controlled, risk-free environment -- using the same motorcycle control functions as an actual motorcycle. Even car drivers can benefit from the situational awareness lessons provided by the SMARTrainer

Used under the guidance of SMARTrainer coaches, the SMARTrainer becomes a powerful teaching tool. Riders gain valuable feedback for the choices they make on the road, helping them identify areas where they can improve their decision-making abilities.Al (Smokey) Greaves

Ron Szoczei



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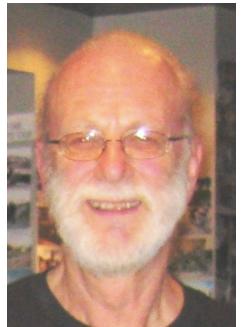
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Visitations Report

"I Just Want To Hang Out With The Guys"

One of our downed riders said it best. Being cooped up in hospital or in a rehab facility, the camaraderie of their fellow riders is what our downed riders miss most. We are able to provide that with our weekly Visitations and by taking them out to a local "Rider" restaurant or motorcycle dealership and by inviting them to our Show-n-Shines. It means a lot to them and in some cases, it makes their day.



In this, our busiest time of year, we have done 65 Visitations in the last month totaling 248 so far this year. At one point we were visiting 14 downed riders. We had four people up the Upper Fraser Valley – Mission, Abbotsford and Chilliwack, which entailed a lot of driving back and forth.

Currently, we are Visiting 11 riders, all in the Lower Mainland. One is at Royal Columbian Hospital, one is in VGH, one is in St. Paul's Hospital, two are in UBC Hospital, four are in GF Strong Rehabilitation Center, one is in the George Pearson Centre and one is in Brookside Lodge in Surrey. We have gained a new Visitation Volunteer who is in a wheelchair and will be able to relate to our wheelchair-bound riders. We also have gained a new Visitation Volunteer who lives in the Abbotsford area and will be able to do Visitations in the Upper Fraser Valley for us. A bonus is that this Volunteer is a lady which is helpful for Visiting female downed riders.

Gary Richardson, Visitation Director

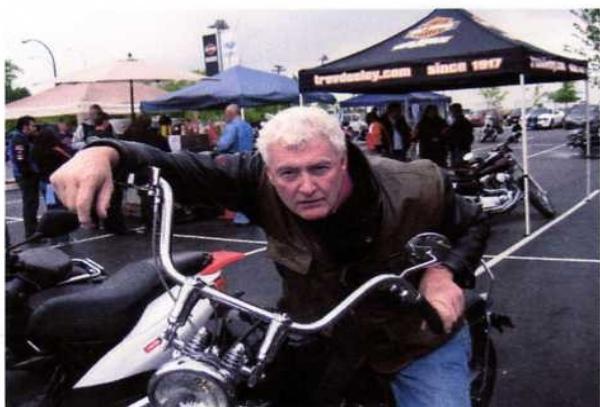


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American Motorcyclist Association

MOTORCYCLIST FATALITIES DROP 16 PERCENT IN 2009

<http://home.ama-cycle.org/newsroom/amarelease.asp?rnum=A10078>

Below is some info from the AMA out of the USA. It shows a drop in fatality rates for motorcyclist in 2009, and an announced four-year, \$3 million Oklahoma State University Study, which is the first major research on motorcycling since the Hurt Report 30 years ago.

PICKERINGTON, Ohio -- In what can only be considered good news for motorcyclists, federal officials have reported that motorcycling deaths on the nation's roads dropped by 16 percent in 2009 compared to the previous year, according to the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA).

"The death of any motorcyclist is one too many, so this news that fatalities are down is encouraging," said Ed Moreland, AMA senior vice president for government relations. "While we are pleased that the number of motorcycling fatalities dropped dramatically in 2009, a one-year drop isn't a trend. We need to determine why, and ensure that the decline continues."

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reported on Sept. 9 that motorcycling fatalities in 2009 decreased for the first time in more than a decade -- dropping to 4,462 in 2009 from 5,312 in 2008. Federal officials said traffic deaths involving all vehicles nationwide fell 9.7 percent in 2009 -- from 37,423 in 2008 to 33,808. The figure is the lowest since 1950. Traffic safety officials said that the decrease may be due to increased seat belt use, tougher enforcement of drunk driving laws and improved vehicle safety features.

According to NHTSA figures, motorcycling fatalities have decreased in the past -- from 1980 to 1997 -- but then fatalities increased steadily for 11 years. 2,294 motorcyclists were killed in 1998, and the number of fatalities rose each subsequent year, reaching 5,312 in 2008.

Moreland cautioned that there will be speculation about why motorcycling fatalities are down so significantly in 2009, and noted that there aren't any solid answers.

"The motorcycling community looks forward to receiving some real answers about motorcycle crashes and what causes them from the new federal crash causation study that is under way at Oklahoma State University (OSU) through the Oklahoma Transportation Center in Stillwater," Moreland said. "Then we can put our heads

together to find solutions, reduce crashes and save more lives."

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is overseeing the just-begun, four-year, \$3 million OSU study, which is the first major research on the subject in 30 years.

The last major study into the causes of motorcycle crashes was issued in January 1981. Called "Motorcycle Accident Cause Factors and Identification of Countermeasures Volume I: Technical Report," the study became known as the "Hurt Report," named after lead researcher Hugh "Harry" Hurt of the University of Southern California. Hurt was inducted into the Motorcycle Hall of Fame in 2007 for his pioneering work.

That study provided a wealth of data that has been used by organizations and individual motorcyclists to help keep riders safer on the road. But the traffic environment has changed enormously in the decades since, prompting the AMA to begin campaigning for a new study several years ago.....Joe Pyringer,

About the American Motorcyclist Association

Since 1924, the AMA has protected the future of motorcycling and promoted the motorcycle lifestyle. AMA members come from all walks of life, and they navigate many different routes on their journey to the same destination: freedom on two wheels. As the world's largest motorcycling rights organization, the AMA advocates for motorcyclists' interests in the halls of local, state and federal government, the committees of international governing organizations, and the court of public opinion. Through member clubs, promoters and partners, the AMA sanctions more motorsports competition and motorcycle recreational events than any other organization in the world. AMA members receive money-saving discounts from dozens of well-known suppliers of motorcycle services, gear and apparel, bike rental, transport, hotel stays and more. Through the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame, the AMA preserves the heritage of motorcycling for future generations. For more information, please visit AmericanMotorcyclist.com.



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Greetings Sisters and Brothers.

Its now mid Sept and there is not many rides or events left in this season. The last big event is the Vancouver "Toy Run". Not too long after that most Riders insurance will expire, you know what I'm talking about.

The prep work before you put Your Baby to bed for the winter. Well maybe you don't and you are a Di-Hard rider, but ME and most of my friends put the "skoot"away for the winter or un-riding season.

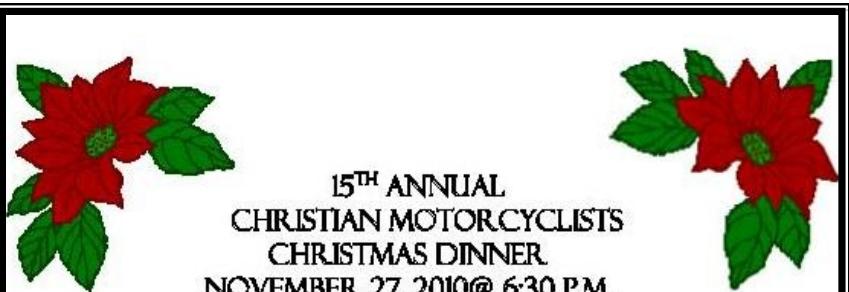
Naturally when I put the bike away I reflect on the past seasons riding and events that We as A.I.M. had a participated in with our booth..

I don't know about You but I sure had one hell of a good riding season. This summer was one of the best for having good whether to ride. We had one Glitch at The Boogie Bash, A one hour freak rain and hail storm but passed over,(thank goodness) and then everyone carried on partying.

The Hot Summer nites show -n-shine in 100 mile House was a blast. The ride up thru the Fraser Canyon was just spectacular . The weather hot as hell, and when put all together produced a lot of comradely. The show n shines, that's a whole other story. AIM participated in so many I forgot the total amount. These events are important for us, not only for signing new members, re-newing old ones, but some of the proceeds are given to AIM. REMEMBER the more money we have, the more thing we can do.

This winter I would like for "YOU" to put your thinking cap on, reflect a little, then conclude that next year you will VOLUNTEER some of your time and come out and help AIM, plus it is hell of a good way to socialize.

Russ St.Eloi. A director at large.



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PLEASE Ride SAFELY!!!

Safety tips

1. Assume you're invisible

Because to a lot of drivers, you are. Never make a move based on the assumption that another driver sees you, even if you've just made eye contact. Bikes don't always register in the four-wheel mind.

2. Be considerate

The consequences of strafing the jerk du jour or cutting him off start out bad and get worse. Pretend it was your grandma and think again.

3. Dress for the crash, not the pool or the prom

Sure, Tim Horton's is only a 5-minute trip, but nobody plans to eat pavement. Modern mesh gear means 100-degree heat is no excuse for a T-shirt and board shorts.

4. Hope for the best, prepare for the worst

Assume that car across the intersection will turn across your bow when the light goes green, with or without a turn signal.

5. Leave your ego at home

The only people who really care if you were faster on the freeway will be the officer and the judge.

6. Pay attention

Yes, there is a half-naked girl on the billboard. That shock does feels squishy. Meanwhile, you could be drifting toward Big Trouble. Focus.

7. Mirrors only show you part of the picture

Never change direction without turning your head to make sure the coast really is clear.

8. Be patient

Always take another second or three before you pull out to pass, ride away from a curb or into freeway traffic from an on-ramp. It's what you don't see that gets you. That extra look could save your butt.

9. Watch your closing speed

Passing cars at twice their speed or changing lanes to shoot past a row of stopped cars is just asking for trouble.

10. Beware the verge and the merge

A lot of nasty surprises end up on the sides of the road: empty McDonald's bags, nails, TV antennas, ladders, you name it. Watch for potentially troublesome debris on both sides of the road.

11. Left-turning cars remain a leading killer of motorcyclists Don't assume someone will wait for you to dart through the intersection. They're trying to beat the light, too.

12. Beware of cars running traffic lights

The first few seconds after a signal light changes are the most perilous. Look both ways before barging into an intersection.

13. Check your mirrors

Do it every time you change lanes, slow down or stop. Be ready to move if another vehicle is about to occupy the space you'd planned to use.

14. Mind the gap

Remember Driver's Ed? One second's worth of distance per 10 mph is the old rule of thumb. Better still, scan the next 12 seconds ahead for potential trouble.

15. Beware of tuner cars

They're quick and their drivers tend to be aggressive. Don't assume you've beaten one away from a light or outpaced it in traffic and change lanes without looking. You could end up as a Nissan hood ornament.

16. Excessive entrance speed hurts

It's the leading cause of single-bike accidents on twisty roads and racetracks.

"In Slow, Out Fast" is the old adage, and it still works. Dialing up corner speed is safer than scrubbing it off.

17. Don't trust that deer whistle

Ungulates and other feral beasts prowl at dawn and dusk, so heed those big yellow signs. If you're riding in a target-rich environment, slow down and watch the shoulders.

18. Learn to use both brakes

The front does most of your stopping, but a little rear brake on corner entry can calm a nervous chassis.

19. Keep the front brake covered—always

Save a single second of reaction time at 100 kmh (60 mph) and you can stop 30 meters (88 feet) shorter. Think about that.

20. Look where you want to go

Use the miracle of target fixation to your advantage. The motorcycle goes where you look, so focus on the solution instead of the problem.

(Continues on page 11)

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Disabled riders back on hogs

KRISTEN THOMPSON

METRO VANCOUVER

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Last modified: August 09, 2010 1:26 a.m.

They say if you fall off a horse, you should get right back on. The adage holds true to motorcyclists, too, according to injured and amputee riders who braved the rain to show off their bikes outside the GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre in Vancouver yesterday.

Dave Munro, president of the Association For Injured Motorcyclists (AIM), Vancouver, lost his left leg above the knee five years ago after being hit by a drunk driver.

He said getting back on the bike quickly helps injured riders overcome their fear of riding and restores a much-needed sense of normalcy.

Marcia Thomson lost her leg to cancer and said the thought of getting back on her Harley helped her through rehab.

"When you're having a rough day, it's something to work toward," said Thomson.

"If there's a will, there's a way."



Association for Injured Motorcyclists

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Swan Charity Calendar

Dave Munro, Gary Richardson and I attended the Vancouver Shark Club for the Swan Charities Calendar



Release Party. This event got started in 2007 by some female riders as a memorial dedication to Julia Sit, an avid female motorcyclist who ran the Swan Café, in Vancouver. The group managed to launch their first calendar in 21 days for the 2008 debut raising \$10,000 for the Vancouver Firefighters Charitable Society. In 2009 they raised \$12,000, and at the 2010 launch party they raise \$8,750 in that one evening. They still have some remaining calendars and please consider ordering one by PayPal at www.swancharities.org to help meet their \$20,000 goal for this year. It is well worth it because the calendar goes to December 2011! If you would like more information, please see Lesley Gering's article (The Beautiful Ms. July) on page 66 + 67 of the October/November 2010 Motorcycle Mojo Magazine. Besides being a motorcyclist, Lesley is also a writer and artist, her website is www.motorgirl.com

Joe Pyringer

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Trev Deeley Motorcycles 2010 Events

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June 19	Dyno Shoot Out
June 27	Bikers for Burns Ride
July 17	Deeley's Vancouver Harley Owners Group MDC Charity Breakfast
July 18	Burn Camp Ride
August 15	Gastown Show & Shine
September 19	Rumble to the Rock IV Ride
October 2	Dyno Shoot Out
October 3	Toy Run After Burner Party
October 9	Test Our Metal Demo Day
October 30	Deeley Halloween
November 18	Guys & Gals Tech Night



Bring your friends along!

Continued from Page 9

21. Keep your eyes moving

Traffic is always shifting, so keep scanning for potential trouble. Don't lock your eyes on any one thing for too long unless you're actually dealing with trouble.

22. Think before you act

Careful whipping around that Camry going 7 mph in a 25-mph zone or you could end up with your head in the driver's side door when he turns into the driveway right in front of you.

23. Raise your gaze

It's too late to do anything about the 20 feet immediately in front of your fender, so scan the road far enough ahead to see trouble and change trajectory.

24. Get your mind right in the driveway

Most accidents happen during the first 15 minutes of a ride, below 40 mph, near an intersection or driveway. Yes, that could be your driveway.

25. Come to a full stop at that next stop sign

Put a foot down. Look again. Anything less forces a snap decision with no time to spot potential trouble.

Sent in by Gary Richardson

Gospel Riders 2010 Christmas Dinner

Dec. 4th - 6PM

Eagle Ridge Gymnasium
1160 Lansdowne Drive. Coquitlam

with
FIRSTBORN LIVE!

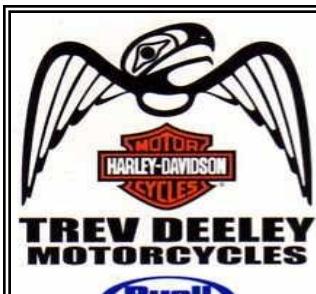
INFO - 604 377 8769



Hey Everyone,

I hope you all read BILL 14 at BCCOM's website www.bccom-bc.com/ and will be signing up for a membership. Numbers count and BCCOM will need those numbers in the future. Also check out their next meeting to find out more about Bill 14 or call 604-580-0111

We hope to see you at the next few events: both Toy Runs, The Gospel and Christian Riders Christmas dinners, (Delicious Turkey dinners) and not to forget the Tradex in January. Keep your Calendars handy to mark all the events in 2011, as there will be lots happening. Watch this site www.greatcanadianbikeralley.com/ as the community of Merritt, BC is welcoming us riders in Mid July. Wishing you all the Best during the Xmas & New Years season. Be safe and take care.....Chris



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BCCOM
Coalition of Motorcyclists**

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Website: www.bccom-bc.com • Email: shannon@bccom-bc.com

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Working for your freedom to ride!



GF Strong Show & Show

2010

Many thanks to:

Trev Deeley

Jim McNeney

CMDRA

**MotorcycleLawyer.ca,
Ivers Custom Motorcycles**

George Geraghty

BCCOM

AZZKIKR Customs

Davidson Pitt Stop Restaurant



Are you having a Motorcycle event, or know of one that you would like to see posted at
www.aimvancouver.com/calendar/ Please email us at info@aimvancouver.com attention Calendar of Events