

What's Happening

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

September 29-October 2

BMW Rams #43, 37th Return To Shiloh Rally, TVA Campground, 13 miles south of **Savannah, TN**. Information: rally@bmwrms.com or www.bmwrms.com

North Texas Norton Owners Association, 27th Annual Lake O' The Pines Rallye, Big Cypress Marina, **Jefferson, TX**. Info: www.ntnoa.org or ntnoa@ntnoa.org

September 30-October 1

AMCA, Chesapeake Chapter Meet, **Jefferson, PA**. Information: 410-692-9291; email: scott.english@us.army.mil

September 30-October 2

MSTA, Buddies of Bruce, Victorian Inn & Suites, **Cape Girardeau, MO**. Information: Steve Long/Sonja Linton, 615-604-8671.

MSTA, Fall Colors Ride, The Inn At Snowshoe, **Snowshoe, WV**. Info: Syd Mays, 804-265-8636.

BMWMOA, Weekend Getaway, **Tomah, WI**. The Cranberry Lodge will be base camp located on Gasoline Alley (Highway 12) between I-90 and I-94, 319 Wittig Rd. Info: 636-394-7277; www.bmwmoa.org/calendar

October

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30	31					

October 2

Virginia British Motorcycle Club, Classic Bike Rally and Show, Prince William County Fair-

grounds, **Manassas, VA**. Info: 703-791-8411; www.VirginiaBritishMotorcycle.org

Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, Road Ride, 9th Annual Dallas-Fort Worth Ride for Kids, Grapevine Mills Mall, **Grapevine, TX**. Info: rideforkids@rideforkids.org or 800-253-6530.

Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, Road Ride, 7th Annual Las Vegas Ride for Kids, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, **Las Vegas, NV**. Information: rideforkids@rideforkids.org or 800-253-6530.

Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, Road Ride, 19th Annual Northern California Ride for Kids, Solano Community College, **Fairfield, CA**. Info: rideforkids@rideforkids.org or 800-253-6530.

Superbike-Coach Corp., Road Skills, Group, **San Francisco, CA**. Information: 916-712-1817; www.superbike-coach.com

Superbike-Coach Corp., Setup Course, Group, **San Francisco, CA**. Info: 916-712-1817; www.superbike-coach.com

Puget Sound Safety Motorcycle Training, Lee Parks Total Control Advanced Riding Clinic with Puget Sound Safety, **Olympia, WA**. Info: 888-KEY-SKILLS; www.pugetsoundsafety.com

October 3

Cornerspeed, Professional Roadcourse Instruction, Motorcycle Skills School, Virginia International Raceway, North Course, **Alton, VA**. Info: 704-332-3147; www.cornerspeed.net

October 3 and 4

California Superbike School, all levels, Sears Point Infineon Raceway, **Sonoma, CA**. Info: 800-530-3350; www.superbikeschool.com

October 6-7

California Superbike School, two-day camp, Streets of Willow Springs, **Rosamond, CA**. Information: 800-530-3350; www.superbikeschool.com

October 6-8

HOG, Oklahoma State Rally, **McAlester, OK**. Information: 580-763-7613.

HOG, South Carolina Rally, **Greenburg, SC**. Info: 864-357-1147; www.scstatehogrally.com

October 7-9

HOG, Hawaii Rally, **Honolulu, HI**, Info: 808-384-9308.

Gateway Riders BMW Club, 36th Falling Leaf Rally, **Potosi, MO**. Information: Larry Floyd, 314-892-7012; email: bmefallingleaf@att.net

October 8

The Asbury United Methodist Church, 2nd Annual Christian Motorcycle Benefit Ride, **Charlestown, WV**. Info: 304-725-5513; www.myasburychurch.org

Total Rider Tech, Level 1, Total Control Advanced Riding Clinic, Thunder Tower Harley-Davidson, **Columbia, SC**. Info: 262-545-3334; www.totalridertech.com

Christus Foundation.org, Nun Run: a Blue Knight police-escorted event starting at the Villa de Matel, **Houston, TX**. and ending at the Lone Star Flight Museum, **Galveston, TX**. Info: Kemah.Blair@christushealth.org or Kemah Blair, 713-803-1801.

October 8 and 9

California Superbike School, all levels, Streets of Willow Springs, **Rosamond, CA**. Info: 800-530-3350; www.superbikeschool.com

October 9

Total Rider Tech, Total Control Advanced Riding Clinic Skills Day, Thunder Tower Harley-Davidson, **Columbia, SC**. Info: 262-545-3334; www.totalridertech.com

Kawasaki C14 riders and Friend's Ride, Union Bridge Fire Hall, **Bridge, MD**. Breakfast buffet 9 a.m., 150-mile self-guided ride ends at Shippensburg, PA. Info: Russel Fleming, 410-374-9687; fleming@gis.net

October 10

Penguin Roadracing School, Inc., Basic Course, Barber Motorsports Park, **Birmingham, AL**. Information: 978-400-8204; www.penguinracing.com

Let's Ride Track Days, Buttonwillow Raceway, **Buttonwillow, CA**. Information: 800-482-8848; www.letsridetrackdays.com

October 13-16

Hawg Lakes Fall Rally, **Tecumseh, OK**. Info: 405-598-1755; www.hawglakes.com

October 14

Penguin Roadracing School, Inc., Basic Course, New Hampshire Motor Speedway, **Loudon, NH**. Information: 978-400-8204; www.penguinracing.com

What's Happening

October 14-16

HTSA, AR By Way Boogie, Paris Inn, **Paris, AR**. Info: Joshua Blockburger, 501-860-2213.

Kiamichi Independent Bikers Fall Rally, **Idabel, OK**. Info: 580-212-6949; www.pine-net.com/kib

October 15

Streetmasters Motorcycle Workshop, Willow Springs International Raceway's Horse Thief Mile, **Rosamond, CA**. Information: 951-549-1717; www.streetmasters.info

Total Rider Tech, Level 1 Total Control Advanced Riding Clinic, Palmetto HS, **Bradenton, FL**. Information: 262-545-3334; www.totalridertech.com; info@totalridertech.com

Total Rider Tech, Level 1 Total Control Advanced Riding Clinic, Sunshine's Motorcycle School, **Lawrenceville, GA**. Information: 262-545-3334; www.totalridertech.com; 800-253-6530.

1st Annual Poker Run, North Georgia (**Blue Ridge, Blairsville, Young Harris, Hiwassee, Helen, GA**, and back). Information: SteveESuttonabc@netzero.com

October 15-16

The Del Mar Concours d'Elegance, Del Mar Race Track Paddock, **San Diego, CA**. Featuring a wide variety of antique and classic vehicles. Information: www.delmarconcours.com. Featured charity: San Diego Museum of Art.

October 16

Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, Road Ride, 15th Annual Phoenix Ride for Kids, Desert Ridge High School, **Mesa, AZ**. Information: rideforkids@rideforkids.org or 800-253-6530.

Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, 7th Annual San Diego Ride for Kids, Mira Costa College, San Elijo Campus, **Cardiff, CA**. Info: rideforkids@rideforkids.org or 800-253-6530.

Superbike-Coach Corp., Coached Tour, Group, Lake Berryessa, **Napa, CA**. Information: 916-712-1817; www.superbike-coach.com

October 16-17

Jeff Williams Productions, Motorcycle Swap Meet, Fairgrounds, **Oklahoma City, OK**. Info: www.jwswapmeet.com; jwswap@yahoo.com or 816-228-5811

October 19-22

HOG, Florida State Rally, **Destin-Ft. Walton Beach, FL**. Information: 352-383-8673.

October 22 and 23

California Superbike School, all levels, Streets of Willow Springs, **Rosamond, CA**. Info: 800-530-3350; www.superbikeschool.com

October 23

Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, 9th Annual Louisiana Ride for Kids, SLEMCO, **Lafayette, LA**. Information: rideforkids@rideforkids.org or 800-253-6530.

Superbike-Coach Corp., Tech Basics, Group, **Elk Grove, CA**. Information: 916-712-1817; www.superbike-coach.com

Superbike-Coach Corp., Setup Course, Group, **Elk Grove, CA**. Information: 916-712-1817; www.superbike-coach.com

Love Ride Foundation, 28th Annual Love Ride, Castaic Lake, **Castaic, CA**. Information: www.glendaleharley.com

October 24&25

California Superbike School, Code R.A.C.E., Streets of Willow Springs, **Rosamond, CA**. Info: 800-530-3350; www.superbikeschool.com

October 27-29

HOG, Mississippi State Rally, **Southaven, MS**. Information: 601-797-3642.

October 28-30

MSTA, 18th Annual Texas Hill Country, YO Ranch Resort, **Kerryville, TX**. Info: 817-988-3499; www.tiny.cc/texashillcountry

GWRRR, Arizona district Convention/Rally, Wings of the Wild West, Tucson Hilton East, **Tucson, AZ**. Information: 623-934-7496; www.gwrrraaz.com

October 29

BMW Club of **Southern California** #11 and BMW Motorcycles of Ventura County, Park 'N Ride Rally. Pre-registration is mandatory. Info: www.bmwcosc.com/2011ParkNRide.html

October 30

Superbike-Coach Corp., Track Drill, Group, **Atwater, CA**. Information: 916-712-1817; www.superbike-coach.com

November 6

Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, 12th Annual Tampa Bay Area Ride for Kids, Heinrich Training Center, **Lithia, FL**. Information: rideforkids@rideforkids.org or 800-253-6530.

November

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November 7&8

California Superbike School, two-day camp, Sears Point Infineon Raceway, **Sonoma, CA**. Info: 800-530-3350; www.superbikeschool.com

November 12

Streetmasters Motorcycle Workshop, precision cornering workshop designed for street riders, Willow Springs International Raceway's Horse Thief Mile, **Rosamond, CA**. Information: 951-549-1717; www.streetmasters.info

Total Rider Tech, Level 1 Total Control Advanced Riding Clinic, Palmetto High School, **Bradenton, FL**. Information: 262-545-3334; email: info@totalridertech.com; www.totalridertech.com

Total Rider Tech, Level 1 Total Control Advanced Riding Clinic, Sunshine's Motorcycle School, **Lawrenceville, GA**. Information: 262-545-3334; www.totalridertech.com, info@totalridertech.com

November 13

Total Rider Tech, Level 1 Total Control Advanced Riding Clinic Skills Day, Palmetto High School, **Bradenton, FL**. Information: 262-545-3334; email: info@totalridertech.com; www.totalridertech.com

November 16-17

California Superbike School, two-day camp, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, **Las Vegas, NV**. Info: 800-530-3350; www.superbikeschool.com

November 18-20

Progressive International Motorcycle Show, San Mateo County Event Center, **San Mateo, CA**. Info: www.motorcycleshows.com

November 19&20

California Superbike School, two-day camp, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, **Las Vegas, NV**. Info: 800-530-3350; www.superbikeschool.com

November 22

Superbike-Coach Corp., SoCal Road Skill, Group, **San Diego, CA**. Information: 916-712-1817; www.superbike-coach.com

November 23

Superbike-Coach Corp., SoCal setup course, group, **San Diego, CA**. Information: 916-712-1817; www.superbike-coach.com

Superbike-Coach Corp., 1-on-1 road skill available, **San Diego, CA**. Information: 916-712-1817; www.superbike-coach.com

November 25

Superbike-Coach Corp., SoCal road skill, group, **San Diego, CA**. Information: 916-712-1817; www.superbike-coach.com

December 2

Penguin Roadracing School, Inc., Special Event, Homestead Miami Speedway, **Homestead, FL**. Information: www.penguinracing.com

December

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December 2-4

Progressive International Motorcycle Show, Dallas Convention Center, **Dallas, TX**. Information: www.motorcycleshows.com

December 9-11

Progressive International Motorcycle Show, Long Beach Convention Center, **Long Beach, CA**. Information: www.motorcycleshows.com

December 16-18

Progressive International Motorcycle Show, Washington State Convention Center, **Seattle, WA**. Information: www.motorcycleshows.com

December 17

Total Rider Tech, Level 1 Total Control Advanced Riding Clinic, Traviss Career Center, **Lakeland, FL**. Information: 262-545-3334; www.totalridertech.com

Total Rider Tech, Total Control Advanced Riding Clinic Skills Day (former students only), Traviss Career Center, **Lakeland, FL**. Information: 262-545-3334; www.totalridertech.com, info@totalridertech.com

Plan Ahead January 6-8, 2012

Progressive International Motorcycle Show, Suburban Collection Showplace, **Novi, MI**. Information: www.motorcycleshows.com

January 13-15

Progressive International Motorcycle Show, Washington Convention Center, **Washington, D.C.** Information: www.motorcycleshows.com

BMWNEF, 29th Annual Winter Rally, Camp Blanding on **Kingsley Lake, FL**. Limited to the first 500 people. Information: BMWNEFrally@gmail.com

January 20-22

Progressive International Motorcycle Show, Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, **New York, NY**. Information: www.motorcycleshows.com

January 27-29

Progressive International Motorcycle Show, I-X Center, **Cleveland, OH**. Information: www.motorcycleshows.com

July 4-7

GWWRRA, Wing Ding 34, Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, **Ft. Wayne, IN**. Information: 888-258-6699; www.wing-ding.org

Information subject to change. For a listing of your event, send all relevant information to: MCN—What's Happening, P.O. Box 6050, Mission Viejo, CA 92690-6050, or e-mail editor@mcnews.com, subject line: What's Happening. Please include as much information as possible—dates, locations, where to write sponsoring group, phone numbers, e-mail addresses and web sites. Always double-check all spelling and dates. To be assured of a listing, please let us know AT LEAST 90 DAYS before the first of the month in which the event occurs.

Motorcycle
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Motorcycle Justice

Q: AS A RETIRED motor officer I have recently been recruited into a Blue Knights chapter. On their “escorted” rides, they stop traffic at intersections and direct traffic at points, using procedures that are often amateurish and even outright dangerous to both themselves and surrounding traffic.

To my knowledge, none of these guys are trained motor officers. They do these runs on their own time, using personal bikes (complete with lights and sirens) and are not sanctioned by any police authority. As such they have no legal authority to stop or direct traffic.

I have not said anything yet, but I am concerned. If they cause an accident, even indirectly, I think they are exposing themselves to serious liability issues both for the club and individually. Am I correct?
Name Withheld

You are correct. As you recall from your training, the lights and siren privileges arise from very specific state laws. Most states allow the use of lights and sirens only on “authorized emergency vehicles” identified by the laws as specific police, fire, rescue and other service vehicles.

Although the “authorized emergency vehicle” may be owned by an individual, the operator still needs an emergency vehicle permit. In other words, membership in a police or fire department is not sufficient to legalize the use of lights and a siren on a personal motorcycle owned by the operator.

The legal limitations upon actions by the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle provide the next level of concern. Typical state laws restrict any exemption from the traffic laws (stoplights, speed limits, turn restrictions, or whatever) to times when the emergency vehicle operator is responding to an emergency call, pursuing a suspect, and responding to (but not returning from) a fire alarm.

In other words, even if the rider secures an emergency vehicle permit for his motorcycle, there is no siren and lights traffic law exemption for a motorcycle ride with your buddies.

Beyond that, most laws also include another caution: Emergency vehicle privileges do not relieve the driver from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons, and the law does not protect

the driver from the consequences of reckless disregard for the safety of others.

The bottom line is that if the participants in an “escorted ride” cause an accident, they are exposed to liability. To tie in the entire group, an attorney for the injured party would have to show some level of knowledge/complicity by the other participants. If the victim is seriously injured, it is doubtful that the primary offender’s insurance coverage would provide sufficient compensation, so you can bet that any competent attorney will search for a way to include everyone in the liability chain.

—Harry Deitzler

Harry Deitzler is a partner in the law firm of Hill, Peterson, Carper, Bee and Deitzler, PLLC; Charleston, WV. Send questions to: harry@motorcyclejustice.com

Please Note: The information in this column is intended for general purposes only and is not to be considered legal or professional advice of any kind. You should seek advice that is specific to your problem before taking or refraining from any action and should not rely on the information in this column.

Street Strategy

Cone Crowding

by Ken Condon

YOU LOVE RIDING your motorcycle through the curves, but you weren’t always so comfortable in corners. Being a relatively new rider, you struggled with cornering confidence until you took an advanced riding course where you learned the intricacies of initiating lean and managing traction. Now, you can’t wait for opportunities to tackle the twisty tarmac.

Today, you are riding alone on an unfamiliar road that all of the people on your local message board rave about. It sure is challenging, with many tight turns that snake through heavily wooded land. The road itself is in pretty good shape, and there is little traffic to contend with, so you decide to practice some of the concepts taught in the course, including cornering lines.

You consciously select the outside part of the lane when entering each curve, swoop toward the apex about mid-corner and then arc to the outside once again at the exit. This method has a lot of practical benefits, such as a better angle of view and traction preservation, but you like it mostly because of the interaction you feel with each corner.

As you approach a blind left hand turn you set up in the right-hand portion of the lane and begin to head toward the inside. Just then you see a series of cones and construction barrels along the edge of the road in the oncoming lane. These barriers are there to keep vehicles away from the road edge where the shoulder has apparently washed out.



As you approach, you see a pickup truck in the other lane heading toward the cones. The driver suddenly runs wide to avoid the barrier, so that his left wheels are almost in your lane. Unfortunately, the cornering line you have committed to will put you dangerously close to the truck’s front bumper. You instinctively change your path so that you remain closer to the center of your lane. You feel a gust of wind on your shoulder as the car passes.

Cornering lines have many benefits, but one thing you did not consider was how an overly aggressive use of the “outside, inside, outside” racing line can put you in danger. When you cannot see past the corner apex, it is often best to use an “outside, middle, outside” path that keeps you away from the centerline in case a driver crowds your space.