



HMDA NEWS

Volume 10 • Issue 5 •

The Newsletter of the HMDA

• June 2005 •

Stolen Vehicle Website

The website – stolenbikeshawaii.com – is up and running and available to the public. If your shop is using Lightspeed software it's very easy to generate a variable report that will give you the VIN numbers of the bikes currently in your service department. Scott, our website wizard, has made it extremely easy to check to see if a bike is stolen. You don't have to type in the 17 digit VIN, you can search

the database by partial VIN. I just enter the last 6 digits and it works just fine. I haven't had a match yet, but I faithfully check the list once a week. Press releases were sent out to: *Hawaii Motorsports and Street Machine Magazine*, *Hawaii Motorhead* magazine, the *Star Bulletin*, the *Honolulu Advertiser*, *Motorcyclist* magazine, *Dealernews* magazine, *American Motorcyclist* magazine, *Motorcycle Product News* magazine and *Pacific Business News*.

Motorcycle & Moped Awareness Month

Mark Morrison, Tim Dayton & Renee Kudlich from GEICO and I had a chance to meet the new Mayor, Mufi Hanneman. Mark Morrison had worked his usual magic and arranged to have proclamations from both the Governor and Mayor. The Mayor was very friendly and seemed genuinely interested in what we had to say. We talked about the problem of motorcycle theft in Hawaii and he asked that we send him a letter detailing the problem which he would then forward to the Chief of Police for response/action. He also expressed an interest in taking the motorcycle rider course so we sent that information on to him as well. All in all, it was a very productive meeting. By now you have probably seen the full page ad that ran in the *MidWeek* weekend edition. There were also smaller ads in the *Star Bulletin* and the military papers. These same ads will run a second time around the 20th of May.

The
next meeting of
the HMDA will be
on Monday,
June 13th,
at 8:30 a.m.
at the
Airport Plaza Hotel
Coffee Shop.

JOIN
US!

Convention Report

Nothing new to report for the convention in October. It may well turn out to be the **must-attend event** on Oahu this year. If you have any comments or suggestions about the convention, NOW is the time to get them in.

Treasurer's Report

There is \$10,976.75 in the HMDA bank account. **We still have some dealers that haven't gotten around to renewing their HMDA memberships for 2005 so they have been removed from the HMDA website.**

We talked about it and decided to start sending out invoices for annual memberships starting in December 2005.

**Are you up to date on your Assessments?
Review the enclosed Assessments chart.
If you have questions, call Gail at 262-7329.**

Motorcycle Safety

Morgan Keene reported that the instructor training class was completed, adding two more instructors for Oahu. Unfortunately, she is losing some of the military instructors, so she still needs to train additional instructors to come out ahead. Classes are already being filled for July just because they don't have enough instructors to teach all of the available students in a timely manner. **If you know someone that is interested in becoming an instructor, please give Morgan a call at 455-0307.** Class demand for Hilo is such that they will start running double classes soon. Over 1,500 students have attended the course so far this year.

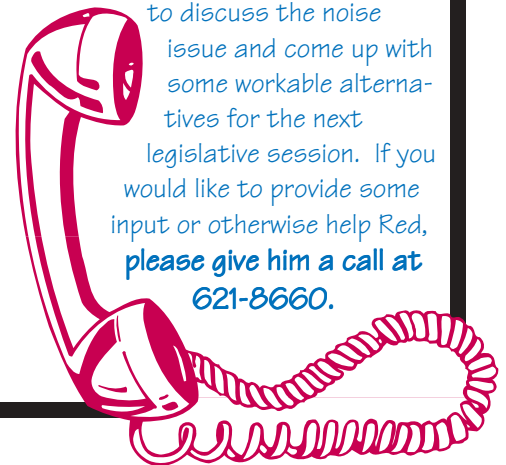
Legislative News

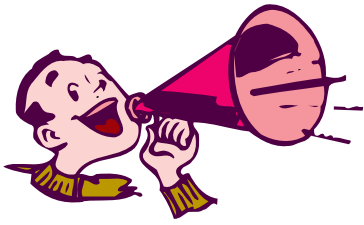
The session is (finally!) over for the year. Of the 23 bills we were tracking this year, only one – graduated driver's licenses – made it all the way through the process. Motorcycles and motor scooters are specifically exempt from the provisions of the bill, so we made it through this legislative session with no changes to our industry. That's not to say that we are getting off scott-free. I am willing to bet that several of these bills will come back to haunt us next year; especially

those dealing with excessive noise. No less than 4 bills were introduced this year dealing with noise, 2 of them specifically targeted motorcycles and mopeds. After some discussion, we decided that we need to be proactive on the issue of noise, rather than just react to whatever they throw at us next year. We need to come up with something that is practical, enforceable and something we can live with – as opposed to HB 1558 which would have prevented ANY modification of a stock motorcycle exhaust. **Red Proctor** has probably done more

research and is more knowledgeable than anyone else on the island when it comes to the issue of noise. **Red** has volunteered to head a committee

to discuss the noise issue and come up with some workable alternatives for the next legislative session. If you would like to provide some input or otherwise help **Red**, please give him a call at **621-8660.**





Time for a change. . .

I have been President of the HMDA for the past two years and have either been President or Vice President for the past 5 years. I have also been responsible for converting the meeting minutes into the content for the newsletter since at least 1999, not to mention reviewing every piece of legislation that has been introduced for the last 3 years. Recently, my “real” work has become more challenging and I need to devote additional time and energy to it. Towards this end, I have decided not to hold an elective office next year, and leave the responsibility of the newsletter to whoever holds the position of HMDA Secretary. Being an officer of the HMDA does require an investment of time, especially while the Legislature is in session, and around the convention, but the effort is vital to maintaining a healthy environment for motorcycles (and mopeds) in Hawaii. Consider for a moment how the industry might have changed in just the last couple of years without an active HMDA: There could have been a nickel a bottle environmental tax placed on every bottle of oil you sell. Legislation could have passed that would have prohibited any modification of mufflers. Dealers could have been forced to collect an “advanced abandoned vehicle disposal fee” of \$250 for every vehicle they sold. Anti-noise legislation might have passed that would have effectively banned modified motorcycles from the Waikiki area. Dealers would have had to collect an “advance disposal fee” for tires and batteries. Dealers that sell personal watercraft could have faced the burden of equipping them with EPIRB’s. There have been many threats to the industry, and I don’t see this trend changing in the future.

**The HMDA needs an infusion of
fresh blood to help protect it.
Between now and the end of the year
please give some serious consideration
to holding an office in the HMDA for 2006.**

And a word to our sponsors...



We couldn't have put this site together without you!

Visit the site at: www.stolenbikeshawaii.com



Hawaii Motorcycle Dealers Assoc.

P.O. Box 1813 • Kailua, HI 96734

(808) 262-7329; Fax: 263-4982

**May is
Motorcycle &
Moped
Awareness
Month**