



### **FROM THE EDITOR: Do you want to ride a Harley?**

A motorcyclist can be created at any time. It's often a matter of timing. Some learn when they're young and grow up with it. Others get the urge later in life. The bug bites them and they can't get rid of it. They're hooked. Some want to learn but are constrained by family members who declare: "Motorcycles are dangerous. Maybe it's your wife or husband who doesn't want to see you get hurt. More likely, it might be that you now have kids to care for and your spouse decries: "Motorcycles will just have to wait." Everyone has a story why they can't ride but wish they

could. The truth is that if you have the bug within you to ride a motorcycle, you will find the right time to take up motorcycling. No amount of pressure from friends, family, or society will deter you from participating in motorcycling. Look for the right time and "Go for it!" You'll know when decision time is near. I don't have to tell you here. One day, you see motorcycles only in the background. You view some riders as irresponsible, riding noisy machines that only serve to awaken you from a sound sleep. Darn those bikers! Then suddenly on the next day, it's as if a new window has opened and all you can see through it is the motorcycle of your dreams and all you want to do is get on that machine and ride off over the next hill and never return. What a transformation! A motorcycle is 100% bicycle, 100% convertible and 100% fun. Nothing provides such freedom, exhilaration and camaraderie with the outdoors as a motorcycle. It's an in-your-face connection between the world and your senses. It's the bark of your exhaust, the windy rush, the carve of a curve and the perfume of nature. You plow the horizon, unfiltered by the sterilized, automatic, window-tinted, air-bagged, climate-adjusting, traction-controlled, sound-deadened cage we call automobile. You can bet; I want to ride my Harley!

### **ISM: TKO RECONIZED AS MAYOR:**

Each day on my way to work, I observe through my windshield, a neighborhood sentry standing on the corner of Telegraph and Stuart in Berkeley in front of Willard Middle School. I presume, given his commanding appearance, that he is a principle or some other administrator. He is a middle aged African American, with graying hair and a solid build. His attire is consistent – jeans, dark shirt, and sun glasses. No matter what the weather, he is there, and I can't ever recall seeing him hold an umbrella. His presence is larger than life. He stands there as if to say...this is my corner; don't even think about messing with me, my school or my kids. He is the Mayor of Telegraph Avenue, waving to honking motorist, and often shouting a morning hello to the regulars. Every day, without fail, he is standing on his corner, greeting each and every student with a handshake, a pat on the back, a smile and Conversation, A simple, powerful gesture, making each child feel important, noticed, and respected. I've watched some of these kids as they're crossing the street. It's not that They look depressed, just sort of detached – until they come up on this gentle giant. Then big smiles break out across their faces. There is an elegant simplicity in that handshake.



**THE MAYOR:** An ordinary act that teaches something profound about the value of each child, and each day, Middle school is such a critical juncture, where things can really go wrong for a kid. There are so many opportunities to slip down the wrong path. But here's one guy who really gets it. He understands the importance of connection that perhaps his positive encounter with a student will outweigh temptation. Sometimes, that's really all it takes, one person noticing. So, though I don't even know this kind man's name, I want to thank you sir, for being a reminder, each day, of what's right with our schools. You represent all the hard working teachers, counselors and staff making intimate connections with our children and helping them gain self-confidence and self-respect. There is no way of knowing just how many of your handshakes have made a difference, but what a difference you have undoubtedly made. With a Perspective, I'm Esther Gulli Student Affairs at UC Berkeley.

**SAFETY ZONE; ISMC ROADCAPTAINS REPORT**  
*ROADCAPTAIN BASSMAN PHOTOED IN BACKGROUND*

This month's *Safety Moment* addresses "Lane Splitting", or as correctly termed in the California Vehicle Code "Lane Sharing". Currently, this practice is legal only in California. The State of Washington is close to passing this law as well. Many other States are considering adopting this provision but are not getting the necessary community support. "Says Bassman" Lane Splitting is widely practiced in California, and with the increasing number of motorcyclists each day taking advantage of this practice, it is causing tension with many drivers. They get flustered and nervous when bikes stroll through traffic invading that normally unoccupied space, with that said; Most drivers are courteous to us when we roll through that slim gap between cars. They make room for us even though we are getting a "free pass" through grid lock. Unfortunately there are those cyclists who roll through at unsafe speeds, weaving through traffic with reckless abandon causing unsafe situations for both cyclists and drivers. There are times when a driver unknowingly is positioned close to the center line making it difficult for cyclists to pass. And I notice cyclists revving their motor scaring the heck out of everyone, as opposed to being patient and waiting for the path to open up. All of this behavior is unsafe, and does not help our cause furthering our image as responsible Motorcyclists. Please be courteous to drivers as most of them are trying to accommodate our passage. In all fairness, there are those drivers who are envious or angry when they see us pass and want to cut us off. That's the reality and the chance we take...



When lane splitting. Though Lane Splitting is Legal, it is not the safest thing to do. I would recommend not doing it if at all possible, or only doing it when absolutely necessary.

**Some key things to remember when Lane Splitting:**

- Preferred splitting lanes are 1 and 2 (less auto lane changes).
- As a rule, when lane splitting do not travel over 10 to 15 mph over the flow of traffic. Traffic Officers can cite you if you exceed this "Basic Speed law". It is not posted anywhere; it's a judgment call and solely at the officers discretion.
- Be wary of solo drivers who use carpool lanes to get ahead of the traffic jam, and then scurry back to their appropriate lane at the last minute.

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**SAFETY ZONE:**

- When other vehicles, whether signaling or not, start a lane change maneuver, don't speed up in an attempt to get past them. Give them the right of way.
- When merging onto backed up Hwy, ensure you check all splitting lanes for oncoming bikes before entering. They come up fast!!
- When riding out of California, keep in mind Lane Splitting is not legal anywhere else in the states. You will be written up.
- Lastly this law is very vague and difficult for officers, lawyers, and judges to determine fault as a result of an infraction or accident. If you get a citation, and you feel you were not speeding or driving unsafe, go to court and plead not guilty, you will most likely prevail. (Article by Bassman)



**ISMC – A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:**

I have read with great interest the communications related to the ISMC Pack riding. It is a great sign of maturity and trust that we can have a respectful dialogue, of varied opinions, and still remain loyal and dedicated to the ISMC Brotherhood! Remember, we are a Club of many Members ***BUT WE ARE ONE Tribe!***

I was most impressed to see the manner in which our Road Captains adjusted but still remained true to their beliefs and their commitment as ROADCAPTAINS! From my point of view, the Road Captains are doing

one hell of a good job! They have planned and executed ride schedules on several occasions that have been near flawless! I have the highest degree of respect for their efforts and want them to continue to represent their work as they represent the ISMC! Personally, I have been riding almost 13 years now and I still feel I am learning more and constantly attempting to perfect my skills on a daily basis, even with the more than 125K miles in the saddle. I proudly watch as **My Brothers** execute riding maneuvers that are beautiful and seemingly perfect. I think the constructive debates that we have is powerful and helpful! We will continue to grow and develop as **ONE TRIBE**...our ongoing interactions and dialogue will only make us stronger!



**Brotherhood/Respect/Unity** is a magnificent cement! Peace I Be Tree!!

**ISMC 3-HAWKS AS A PROSPECT:**

My Prospect period started in March 2006, I didn't know what to expect, so I went into it with no preconceived ideas of what it was going to be like. I thought that nothing could be as tough as Marine Corps Boot-Camp and that I could survive or put up with anything that I was going to be put through. I remember when I received my Prospect patch I felt very proud and honored to have been accepted into the club. Once the prospect period started I felt a bit awkward taking orders from the Brothers. I felt lucky to have had R.G and G-Dubb as my partners and brothers in this endeavor. We went through some trying times where both our resolve and patience were challenged. We developed a bond and stood



shoulder to shoulder enduring and supporting each other. I didn't realize what lessons I would learn from the experience. I understand why I was made a man- servant, why I was made to give back to the Brothers in the form of service. I will never forget that we do not live for ourselves alone... **CONTINUED PAGE FOUR**

**PROSPECT:** That we live for our family, friends and our community. I understood why we were not allowed to speak in meetings, because in the practice of true politeness thought comes before speech and Silence is the mark of respect. Every Iron Soul is a public servant because they are big-hearted, and generous. We give back to the community, we believe in the Brotherhood of Man. My Grandfather always told me that there was honor in giving, that worldly possessions were the downfall of a man, because they bring out desire and greed. He said "Let those you serve express their thanks according to their upbringing and sense of honor. When the other person is regarded more than yourself, duty is sweeter and more inspiring, patriotism more sacred, and friendship is a pure and eternal bond" Until I became an Iron Soul I didn't quite understand what he meant. Our creed says it all Brotherhood, Respect and Unity.

I am Three Hawks member 70.

(Article by Three Hawks)

**IRON SOULS OWN T.O.P COMES TO TOWN FOR A STONESOUL PERFORMANCE**



Brothers Gather at the Stone Soul Picnic to Hear T.O.P.

**>>>>>> T.O.P PUTS IT DOWN >>>>>>**

Memorial Day was a warm sunny day but that didn't keep many of our brothers and their families from getting out in the hot sun to the Cal State Hayward campus for the Stone Soul Picnic featuring our brother T.O.P The performances started at noon and continued on into the evening. There was plenty of good soul food including fried chicken and barbeque with all the fixing's, if you could wait in the never ending long line! Whether on the lawn or in the seats, everyone got to see great performances. While the brothers and their families were spread out throughout the amphitheater, it was a small enough venue to allow for plenty of socializing and laughter together. The day started with old soul music by various performers including Lennie Williams (the original singer for the band Tower of Power), The Dells, and The Whispers. Later in the afternoon, Tower of Power performed and they brought back their past singer, Lennie Williams, for a few songs, but our own T.O.P still stole the stage for most of the performance. As always, T.O.P provided our brothers, their families and plenty of others gathered with an excellent show! The day finished with Isaac Hayes performing as the evening set in. It was a great time for all who attended!

(Article by Breakaway - photos by KC).





JUNE 2007 RUN TO MOTEREY PROVES ITS PURPOSE, A STRONG BROTHERHOOD



**What is a brother?** He is one with whom you dare to be yourself. Your soul may be bared to him. He seems to ask of you to do nothing-only to be just what you are. When you are with him you feel as a prisoner feels who has been declared innocent. You do not have to be on your guard. You can say what you want as long as it is genuinely you. He understands perfectly. You do not have to explain that in your nature which leads others to misjudge you. With him you can breathe freely. You take off your coat and loosen your collar. You can avow your little vanities and envies, your hates and vicious sparks, your meannesses and absurdities, and in opening up to them up to him they are lost on the white ocean of his loyalty. He understands. You do not have to be careful. You can abuse him, neglect him. Best of all you can keep silent with him. It makes no matter because he likes you. He is like fire that purges all that you say. He is like water that cleanses all that you do. He is like wine that warms you to the bone. He understands. You can weep with him, laugh with him, but through and underneath it all he sees, knows, and loves you. He is a person who dares to be you, each brother, with the Landmarks as a guide, must reach out and find Brotherhood. Those who have found it have reached the highest happiness; those still searching must continue with diligence until they too reach that highest plane. In the struggle to find the true meaning of brotherhood, the qualities which insure success are: energy, industry, intellectual capacity, diligence, and, at least, as much sympathy as is necessary to make a man understand the feelings of his fellow man. And in searching for the true meaning of Brotherhood, we will understand the essence of our order, and the honor of being an Iron Soul. (Article by Bo-dean)

**ISMC TINTS UP FOR OPD EXHIBITION**

OPD Motorcycle Drill Team Exhibition held at Bob Dron's Harley in Oakland Ca. was a wonderful turnout; we sold an abundant amount of "Mother Wright" tickets and supporter tee-shirts. This just goes to show that with a collective effort by our members and the community, anything is possible. As Vice President, I would like to personally thank all who participated from the bottom of my heart and tell you that without the valuable time you give, none of the events would be possible. Our President Tree whom has worked hard to ensure that events like this is successful and enjoyable. This demonstrates how positive a collective effort can be; Special thanks to Bob Dron.



*Brotherhood, Respect, Unity.*

(Article and Photo by KC: Vic President).



