



## **District 36 and the American Motorcyclist Association**

The American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) granted District 36 Road Rider and Recreation Division its charter in 1974. In 2009 we celebrate 35 years of effort to promote and protect the interests of motorcyclists. District 36 serves AMA chartered clubs, promoters, and individual riders in Northern California and Western Nevada.

District 36 serves as the official liaison between the chartered clubs and the AMA national headquarters. Our Congress Representatives are your voice to AMA National. They take your concerns and issues to the National Meeting every year. This provides an opportunity to express concerns and issues related to motorcycling through an officially recognized organization. Additionally, the District provides assistance in the preparation of charters, sanctions, insurance applications, event planning as well as reports to the AMA for sanctioned club events. The District also maintains and publishes a calendar of AMA sanctioned events by member club's and assists in event promotion by maintaining a database of free advertising outlets and providing limited paid advertising.

District 36 organizes motorcycling events and promotes cooperation among motorcycle clubs and organizations. We encourage family fun on motorcycles through activities that encourage and exemplify safe and skillful riding for both the recreational rider and those who consider motorcycling a way of life. Three of the events we organize include: Gypsy Tour, a scenic multiple day tour in and around Northern California, sometimes with camping and motel stays; Turkey Run, a fun one day Destination or Poker Run culminating with lunch and prizes; Perhaps the most fun, Hey Dey Rally! This is a three day "camping" event with Tent Cabins, food, games, dancing, and a beautiful riding area just outside Yosemite National Park. In 2010 we are coordinating with District 37 to host and organize a joint history making run to Pismo Beach to recreate a 1930 confluence run.

So why become an AMA chartered club or member and join the District? The AMA is an internationally recognized motorcycling organization established in 1924 to pursue, protect and promote the interests of motorcyclists. It focuses on rights, riding and racing through its government relations work, by sanctioning road and off-road riding activities and overseeing professional and amateur racing events. If you have an interest in motorcycling, they exist for you and the District is an extension of the national organization.

In addition to the benefits of District membership listed above, there are numerous benefits directly from the AMA. Here is just a sampling:

### **Government Relations (probably the best benefit)**

They lobby government concerning issues and legislation at the federal, state and local level that effect motorcycling.

Do you like riding in carpool lanes? The AMA made it legal for motorcyclists.

An example of AMA Government Relations work currently in progress is stopping a possible ban of youth motorcycles and ATV's. On August 14, 2008, Congress passed the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA). Intended to make children's everyday toys safer, the rule governing implementation of the act threatens to end youth off-highway vehicle (OHV) riding entirely.

According to Section 101(a) of the enacted legislation, all youth products containing lead must have less than 600 parts per million (ppm) by weight. The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has interpreted the law to apply to various components of youth OHVs including the engine, brakes, suspension, battery and other mechanical parts. Even though the lead levels in these parts are small, they are still above the minimum threshold.

These examples include: The National Recreational Trails Fund Act of 1990. The OHV community—including the Blue Ribbon Coalition, the Motorcycle Industry Council and the AMA—convinced Congress to pass legislation that created a federal fund to build and maintain off-road trails for recreation areas.

Millions of dollars have since been allocated to this effort. A state by state database of laws effecting motorcycling, check the website [www.amadirectlink.com](http://www.amadirectlink.com)

### **Member discounts on products and services – just a few examples:**

Discount on XENA Security products  
Discounts on products from Ezy-Lift  
Discounts on products from RoadLok  
Discounts on MAD Maps  
Discounts on Garmin Navigators and products  
Bank of America Visa 3% rebate program  
Discounts on insurance from Nationwide  
Discounts on motorcycle parts, gear and apparel  
Discounts on uncrated motorcycle transport  
Motorcycle rental discounts  
Discounts on the SPOT Satellite Personal Tracker  
Discounts at KOA campgrounds  
Lodging discounts  
Entertainment discounts  
Auto rental discounts exclusively from Avis and Budget  
The Motorcycle Hall of Fame Museum  
Get \$5 off Arenacross tickets  
Get \$5 off Supercross tickets

### **Free roadside assistance with membership**

Recently AMA announced this new benefit. Free roadside assistance when you sign up for the AMA's new auto-renewal program. Members who pay \$39 to join online and auto-renew annually with a credit card will be rewarded with free enrollment in the AMA Roadside Assistance Program. AMA has replaced MO-TOW and its added expense (as much as \$60) with a much better program that covers all vehicles—motorcycles, cars, trucks, trailers and RVs—registered to a member, a member's spouse and dependent children under the age of 24 living at home or away at college.

### **American Motorcyclist, the official magazine of the AMA**

The magazine is a monthly publication covering motorcycling, issues, calendar of events and AMA news. Recently AMA's signature benefits were spotlighted along with accomplishments for 2008 and new challenges for 2009.

### **Sanction and Promote Racing**

AMA sanctions professional and amateur motorcycle races, publishes rules for events and training for clubs promoting amateur events. AMA is the only US motorcycle organization recognized by international sanctioning bodies.

If any of this sounds intriguing to you, please contact:

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[Current District Officers](#)

[www.ama-d36.com](http://www.ama-d36.com)

