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TALK TO US

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Looking Back at

DAYTONA BIKE WEEK

Daytona Bike Week celebrates its 84th anniversary February 28 – March 9, 2025

Ever since the inaugural Daytona 200 in 1937, motorcycle riders from across the country have dug themselves out of the snow and headed south for a week of fun in the sun and wild nights. From rowdy concerts on main street, to the racing action at the Speedway, to the endless miles of coastal riding—Daytona continues to be the perfect winter escape for riders. Back in the 40's and 50's the racing was an epic sand throwing affair as the riders risked life and limb to race in a one-of-a-kind pavement and sand spectacular.

While Bike Week of the 70's and 80's really amped up the "rowdiness" of the event, it eventually settled down as more OEM's took advantage of the chance to get in front of customers. Now we see an explosion of custom bike shows, and this trend has continued as bike shows are held almost daily which is an excellent opportunity to get out there and see what the latest trends are among bikers.

What hasn't changed is the gorgeous Florida weather and the opportunity to soak up the sun and get some riding in for those in the northern states. Every year more and more trailers with plates from New York, Pennsylvania and other snowbound states flee south to experience everything that Daytona has to offer.

www.daytonabeach.com/bike-week/





Tips for Making Sure Your Bike is Ready for SPRING BREAK!

Now that winter is on its way out the door and spring is on the Horizon, it's time to hit the road. Before you start planning those great springtime road trips, make sure your bike is as road ready as you are. Here's a check list to make sure your bike is as ready.

- 1) Battery Check:** You won't get off the block without a battery that's charged. Unless you've given your Bike a little extra TLC over the winter, it will likely need some attention now.
 - ▶ Disconnect and top it off with some distilled H2O and a slow charge start up. (FYI: Tap water often has minerals that can shorten battery life).
 - ▶ Scrub off corrosion with a stiff brush and a baking soda/ water mix, but if it's leaking around the terminals, you are best to chuck it.
 - ▶ Wait till it's fully charged before you reinstall. (For most batteries, you want hydrometer readings of 1.26-7 at 80 degrees; Volt meters should reach 12.6 across the terminals).
 - ▶ Use a little petroleum jelly to protect and prevent any future corrosion!
 - 2) Carburetor Check:** We've come a long way since the first Harley that used a tomato soup can as a carburetor back in 1903. (If you read last month's newsletter, then you will recall the trivia! Lol) It's a good idea to locate the drain screw and drain any stale fuel.
 - 3) Sparkplug Check:** Since they are relatively inexpensive, it's a good idea to go ahead and replace your Bike's spark plugs. You know the saying "An ounce of prevention..."
 - 4) Gunky Gas Check:** Gunky gas that's been sitting in an engine for 90 days or more should be drained from the tank and flow bowls.
 - 5) Filter Check:** This is a great time to replace fuel filters, clean petcock screens, and inspect air filters. Check to make sure that a loveable little critter didn't make itself at home there over the winter. This hospitality can be problematic!
 - 6) Tire Check:** Tires typically lose air pressure hibernating all winter. Take time now to closely inspect tires for any wear or damage and make sure that they have proper pressure.
 - 7) Fluid Check:** Sludge can accumulate in any fluid areas, so check antifreeze, brake fluid, transmission, engine oil/filter, primary case, and rear drive oil levels. If you can't remember when they were last changed, it's a good idea to go ahead and change them now.
 - 8) Cable Check:** Examine for unwanted free play and a little lubricant won't hurt either.
 - 9) Brake Pads/Shoes:** A quick check should let you know if there's too much wear on your brake pads /shoes and you should replace them as needed.
- Play it Safe:** Try and go a little slower on that first spring ride after winter hibernation. Your bike might be ready to go, but your riding skills might need a gentle warm up before you go full throttle! Happy and Safe Spring Riding!
- Thanks to Mark Zimmerman for this helpful to do list:**
www.motorcyclecruiser.com





Make Plans for This SPRING

First on the list is the **Route 66 Spring Fever Rally** in Depew, Oklahoma, happening from March 13–16, 2025. This historic route is synonymous with the spirit of the American road and this rally promises a fantastic time filled with scenic rides and vibrant festivities.

Next, make your way to the **Arizona Bike Week** in Scottsdale, Arizona, from April 2–6, 2025. With breathtaking desert landscapes as your backdrop, enjoy a week of top-notch entertainment, custom bike shows and unforgettable rides through the stunning Arizona terrain.

For those seeking coastal adventures, the **Outer Banks Bike Week** in Harbinger, North Carolina, from

April 19–27, 2025, is a must-attend. Cruise along the scenic coastal roads and explore the picturesque beauty of the Outer Banks while connecting with fellow riders.

Head down to the Sunshine State for the **Thunder Beach Motorcycle Rally** in Panama City Beach, Florida, from April 30 – May 4, 2025. White sandy beaches, warm breezes and a vibrant biker community await you in this iconic rally.

Last but certainly not least, rev your engines once more for **Myrtle Beach Bike Week** in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, from May 9 – 18, 2025. This event offers a perfect blend of beachside relaxation and thrilling bike-related activities, making it a favorite among bikers.



Your Legal Guide To MOTORCYCLE INJURY COMPENSATION

This insider's guide explains how motorcyclists can maximize claims after an accident and avoid expensive mistakes, that could devalue their case and cost them tens of thousands of dollars or more. Readers will learn the answers to 11 questions that injured bikers need to ask before they sign any settlement documents with an insurance company.

Read this important legal guide BEFORE you are involved in an accident!

www.NAMIL-LAW.org/Larson



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