

SMSA September 2012 Newsletter

2012 Annual Conference

The Annual SMSA Conference was held in Nashville, TN, August 24-26, 2012. The Annual Business Meeting and a Professional Development Workshop titled: Model Motorcycle Rider Training Program Administrative Standards were held on Friday August 24, 2012.



Christopher Hart, Vice Chairperson of the National Transportation Safety Board addressed the group outlining the efforts being undertaken in the area of motorcycle safety.

During the conference various breakout sessions as well as demonstrations were held allowing participants to attend a variety of activities. The presentations covered areas such as Research and Data Collection, Motorcycle Operators Manual and Knowledge Test, State and Military Requirements for Motorcycle Endorsement, Behavior Modification, the Effectiveness of Safety Programs as well as Customer Service and Communication in the Learning Environment. Presentations from the conference can be found on the website by clicking [here](#).

Friday evening, participants were entertained by country music artist, James Dean Hicks while enjoying a country breakfast for dinner. A barbeque dinner was held on Saturday evening after which shuttles were available to take people downtown to enjoy the sights and sounds of Nashville.

The Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security through the Tennessee Highway Patrol and the Tennessee Motorcycle Rider Education Program deserve a round of applause for all their hard work in preparation for the conference and their support during the conference. Thank you to all our members for your continued support of SMSA and we look forward to seeing you all in Kansas City, MO next year! Mark your calendars for August 23-25, 2013.

To help the SMSA Executive Committee plan conferences that meet the needs and wants of our members, we ask that you complete the 2012 SMSA Conference Evaluation Form which can be found on our website at [put link here](#).

2012 SMSA Outstanding State Award



SKILLS TRAINING ADVANTAGE FOR RIDERS

Stacy "Ax" Axmaker, Idaho **STAR** Motorcycle Safety Program, accepted on behalf of Idaho the SMSA Outstanding State Award. This is a new award that recognizes a state with a comprehensive state motorcycle safety program (NHTSA Highway Safety Program Guideline No. 3 – Motorcycle Safety Program) and has implemented strategies that are successful, effective and can be measured, evaluated and serve as best practices. Congratulations on your success in the field of motorcycle safety.

To view the press release from Idaho **STAR** Motorcycle Safety Program about the award go to <http://www.pitchengine.com/idahostarprogram/idaho-earns-national-motorcycle-safety-program-award>

2012-2013 SMSA Executive Committee

Chairperson – Andrew Krajewski

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For detailed biographies of the new SMSA Executive Committee visit our website at [EC Biographies](#).

~~SMSA Management Agreement with Highway Safety Services, LLC~~

~~Highway Safety Services, LLC (HSS) began providing office space and management consulting services for SMSA starting in January 2012. The SMSA Executive Committee (EC) has been working with HSS to continue providing these services into 2013 at an increased level to enhance the services provided to the EC and the SMSA membership. The EC is proud to announce that all SMSA office and day-to-day management operations will be provided through the SMSA Headquarters Office housed within HSS. Additionally, the EC has designated Brett Robinson as the Executive Director for SMSA. The SMSA Executive Director will report to the EC Chairperson and receive direction, guidance and approval from the EC. You are encouraged to contact Mr. Robinson by email at brobinson@smsa.org or by calling the SMSA Headquarters at (724) 801-8075.~~

~~SMSA Executive Committee News~~

~~The SMSA Executive Committee (EC) established several small Working Groups within the Executive Committee for: (1) 2013 Conference Planning, (2) Military representation within SMSA, and (3) increasing and improving member benefits for Supporting and Individual Members. The EC also task the SMSA staff to develop materials for promoting the SMSA and to provide recommendations for increased benefits for SMSA members. Additional details will follow soon.~~

Membership Renewals Announcement

In accordance with the new Dues Structure for [memberships](#), all current memberships which are expiring in 2012 will be renewed on an annual basis. Renewal forms will be sent out beginning in October 2012. We rely on your continued support to enable SMSA to achieve goals and further promote motorcycle safety. Membership with SMSA also gives you the opportunity to network, share ideas and receive technical assistance through communications and the annual conference as well as shape the future of our industry by participating on SMSA committees and programs.

Model National Standards For Entry-Level Motorcycle Rider Training

Specific, strong, and measurable education standards are a tool to ensure students receive the level of information and experience necessary to properly prepare them for real world riding situations. In addition to providing that foundation, the Model National Standards for Entry-level Motorcycle Rider Training allow programs greater flexibility in course development and delivery and facilitate growth and improvement in their education system.

Establishing the baseline for entry-level rider training conducted in the United States allows jurisdictions to tailor their program to excel in producing better students and safer riders.

To view the Model National Standards For Entry-Level Motorcycle Rider Training visit the NHTSA website at <http://www.nhtsa.gov/Safety/Motorcycles>.

Click here to become and Individual Member.