

**NHMRO (Hampshire Motorcyclists' Rights Organization) was founded in February of 1975 by a group of men and women who felt that their way of life and freedoms were being systematically taken away.**

**NHMRO** was incorporated as a non-profit organization for the sole purpose of restoring certain freedoms lost and retaining freedoms that had not yet been tampered with.

It is the goal of **NHMRO** to have any and all motorcyclists part of the organization so that they may help in retaining the right to ride any motorcycle regardless of size, make or model on all roads and trails in New Hampshire.

It is also **NHMRO's** goal to educate all motorcyclists on the legislative process. **NHMRO** encourages all motorcyclists' to register to vote and participate in the legislative process.

**NHMRO** supports the voluntary use of helmets, not mandatory laws.

### **WHAT HAS NHMRO DONE?**

**NHMRO's** first task, in 1975, was to defeat mandatory lights on bill.

Next we worked with other motorcyclists' rights organizations from across the country in passing a resolution introduced into the U.S. Congress, to prevent the DOT from withholding safety funds if a particular state did not have a mandatory helmet law. Representatives from **NHMRO** made several trips to Washington, D.C. to help accomplish this goal. This goal was accomplished and signed into law in May of 1976.

When the NH Legislature reconvened on January 3, 1977, **NHMRO** had an amendment to the mandatory helmet law in New Hampshire filed. This amendment to the mandatory helmet law was signed into law and took effect on August 7, 1977. The amendment states that any adult motorcyclist over the age of 18 years old is free to choose whether or not they will wear a helmet.

Since 1977 **NHMRO** has defeated many attempts to reinstate a mandatory helmet law. Our most recent helmet battle was during the 1999-2000 session. We will continue defending our position in the new century.

2003, **NHMRO** amended the handlebar law, so now handlebars can be shoulder height.

In 1998 **NHMRO** defeated a \$1 million mandatory insurance bill and a mandatory helmet bill.

**NHMRO** has defeated numerous attempts to institute mandatory lights on bill.

**NHMRO** provided support in helping handicapped motorcyclists in New Hampshire obtain handicapped plates for their motorcycles.

1994 **NHMRO** introduced and worked with the legislature to pass into law a bill exempting directional lights on motorcycles manufactured prior to January 1, 1973.

**NHMRO** worked with the Motor Vehicle Department in improving the motorcycle licensing test.

**NHMRO** began working on the motorcycle education program as early as January' of 1979.

In the summer of 1990 **NHMRO's** resolve to institute a quality motorcycle education program was finally accomplished. Because of **NHMRO's** diligent lobbying efforts and financial commitment, this program is available today for a small fee. In order to implement the program, **NHMRO** provided the introductory financing to train the first group of instructors from New Hampshire. Each year the program has expanded to include new instructors and additional training sites. Approximately 3.000 plus riders attend this training each year.

**NHMRO** has produced and distributed anti-drinking and driving posters throughout New Hampshire.

**NHMRO** produced and supplied to all television stations in NH, a public service announcement with the Governor of NH, asking all citizens to be aware of motorcycles. This public service announcement won a national award from the MSF (Motorcycle Safety Foundation) in 1991.

Each year **NHMRO** requests to have the month of May officially proclaimed by the Governor as "Motorcycle Awareness Month" in the State of New Hampshire.

In 1993 **NHMRO** worked with the Division of Motor Vehicles, motorcycle dealers and legislators on revising the motorcycle noise regulation to ensure that it is fair and reasonable, accommodating both antique and custom motorcycles.

In 2006 **NHMRO** was instrumental in passing two pieces of legislation, one that requires all driver education schools to teach at least 45 minutes of motorcycle awareness and another that requires anyone failing the DMV licensing test twice will be required to take a motorcycle education course. This is part of our continuing effort to reduce fatalities and accidents.

**NHMRO** publishes and distributes a newsletter to all members.

**NHMRO's** website [www.nhmro.org](http://www.nhmro.org) has information on advertisers and businesses that give discounts to **NHMRO** members with current membership cards and listing of events.

**NHMRO**, in cooperation with the Salvation Army and the Union Leader Corporation, sponsors a "Toys for Tots Run" in the fall of every year collecting thousands of toys for the needy children of New Hampshire.

**NHMRO's** many accomplishments have been the result of the dedication and perseverance of our volunteer members.

**We must work together, so that all Motorcyclists remain free to ride the motorcycle of their choice, in the manner in which they' choose.**

**As motorcyclists we must continue to participate with our elected officials to ensure that our freedoms are not lost so that we can continue to ride in the 21<sup>st</sup> century' and beyond.**

**By supporting candidates who believe in Motorcyclists' Rights and electing our own people to office we can ensure our freedoms.**

NHMRO encourages all motorcyclists to enroll in a Motorcycle Safety Course. The courses are now being offered statewide and are one of the best things to happen to motorcycling. You can contact the NH program by calling 603-2 71- 7000.