

CONTEMPORARY HISTORICAL VEHICLE ASSOCIATION, Inc.

OLD CARS AND NEW LAWS

PLUS WHAATSUUP HERE AND THERE

by Larry Becker

December 2016

Five cities have been chosen for a self-driving-car test program. The cities are Nashville, Austin, Los Angeles, Buenos Aires and Paris. Five more cities will be added later this year. The cities will have access to data and coaching from urban planners and technologists meant to help them prepare for self-driving cars and use them to address city challenges.

Police in many cities are using a new device called "The Barnacle" for parking violations. It is a large yellow device that covers the windshield and is attached by using suction cups. A violator may pay their fine via their cell phone, then receive a code to enter into their phone and "The Barnacle" can be removed from the windshield, but must be returned to the police dept. within 24 hours. It is usually used on vehicles which have a number of unpaid parking citations.

New hybrids and electric cars are required to make noise when traveling at low speeds so that pedestrians, especially those who are blind or have poor eye-sight, will hear them coming, under a new rule released Nov. 14th by the Obama administration.

According to a recent survey by Liberty Mutual and a student group, 38% of teens say that their parents text while driving.

The National Highway Safety Administration has updated Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards #110 to clarify that special trailer tires may be installed on new trailers with a gross vehicle weight of 10,000 lbs or less.

Not all of the following state bills are laws at this time. They have recently been introduced and are currently under consideration by the respective legislators.

ALABAMA

Voters in Baldwin County will vote on making golf-carts legal on public roads. A Baldwin only ammendment to the Alabama Constitution will allow limited operation of carts on designated steeets or throughfares.

ARKANSAS

A project intended to reduce the number of wrong-way crashes on Arkansas interstates has been tabled after being determined to be too expensive. The only bid or the project that targets 285 of the state's 528 interstate onramps was \$3.8 million, \$1 million more than estimated.

ARIZONA

The state Dept. of Transportation says it would be prohibitively costly to improve Interstate 17 in mountain terrin. Dept. spokesman, Ryan Harding, said it would cost a mimimum of \$125 million to upgrade the highway from Black Canyon to Sunset Point.

CALIFORNIA

State transportation officials have used thousands of pounds of explosives to implode part of the old San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge as part of an ongoing demolition project. CalTrans first used the technique to break up one of the bridge's foundations in November and cocluded that the imposition caused miminal environmental damage.

DriveTheArc, a company installing chargins stations for EV vehicles, in partnership with the federal and state government, has started building a corridor of charging stations that will extend from Monterey to Lake tahoe.

D.C. WASHINGTON

Officials in D.C. are stepping up efforts to prevent pedestrian deaths. The focus comes with the end of daylight savings time that brings darker evening commutes and greater risk to walkers and bike riders.

HAWAII

State officials have removed nearly 100 locks placed along a lookout in Kauai's Waimea Canyon by couples who put them there as a symbol of their lasting love. State law considers the placement of the 'lovelocks' as littering.

ILLINOIS

Secretary of State Jessie White has announced a program to replace older Illinois license plates. White says it's needed because plate reflectivity diminishes with age.

KANSAS

Budget uncertainties has forced the state Dept. of Transportation to postpone two dozen road projects that were scheduled to start next summer.

KENTUCKY

What where you step!! Amish residents of Auburn (western Kentucky area) are fighting back against an ordinance requiring large animals to wear collection bags to catch their droppings. The Bowling Green Daily News reports that many Amish have refused to comply with the ordinance.

LOUISIANA

Gov. Edwards, highway officials and law enforcement agencies are promoting Louisiana's "move over" law aimed at keeping emergency responders safe from injury

MISSISSIPPI

Guitar shaped statues that honor Elvis Presley, have been reinstalled in Tupelo, the town where Elvis was born. The Downtown Tupelo Main Street Association has installed 14 of the 25 statues honoring Elvis alongside the downtown's sidewalks.

MONTANA

Construction has started at Glacier National Park of a new bridge over Avalache Creek and the rehabilitation of the St. Mary Entrance on the parks east side.

A report has identified a stretch of U.S. Highway 93 near Kalispell as the most dangerous highway in Montana for crashes involving vehicles and wildlife.

NEW YORK

Gov. Cuomo recently announced the grand opening of a 15,000 square foot visitors center just off the Long Island Expressway.

OKLAHOMA

Tulsa police say a modest number of citations have been issued in the first year after the state banned texting and driving. Only 75 citations were issued between Nov. 2015 and September 2016.

BIG fine! The state Highway Patrol says a trooper arrested a driver after clocking his speed at more than 200 mph. The driver attempted to elude the trooper by turning off his headlights and brake lights at one point- but was eventually pulled over at a traffic light.

SOUTHDAKOTA

Busy traffic near hospitals and schools in Sioux Falls, has residents looking for new ways of limiting on-street parking to ensure homeowners can find a spot. Some residents have inquired about a parking permit system. If you are in the city, beware of new traffic restrictions in some areas.

VIGINIA

Gov. McAuliffie said that Portsmouth and Norfolk residents who earn less than \$30,000 a year can qualify for toll discounts when taking the Midtown and Downtown tunnels in Virginia's Tidewater Regions. The discount is 75 cents.

WYOMING

No rooms available. People hoping to stay in Casper for next year's Wyoming Eclipse Festival may be out of luck as hotel rooms are essentially sold out.

WHAATSUUP HERE AND THERE

On October 28th, 1886, the Statue of Liberty was dedicated in New York Harbor. On Oct. 31st, 1941, Mount Rushmore National Memorial was completed after 14 years of work.

If you rent a car and damage it, the rental company may want to charge you for "loss of use" while the vehicle is being repaired. USA Today suggests the follow three options: ask your insurance company for help, ask for documents proving that the vehicle would have been rented if it had been available, if they refuse, dispute the charges on your credit card and last, threaten to sue the rental company.

In January 2017, Toyota will begin testing a new car sharing system that lets users unlock doors and start cars with their smartphones - no key required. The testing will be in San Francisco with the Getaround car-sharing service starting January 2017.

Tesla has decided to stop offering unlimited free use of its 734 fast-charging stations world wide. Tesla has not announced how much its fees will be, but it said charging will cost less than the price of filling a comparable gasoline.

Jaguar, Audi and several other manufacturers are rolling out electric SUVs. Tesla is also developing electric SUVs.

President elect Trump plans to spend \$550 billion over the next decade to upgrade the nation's crumbling roads, bridges and waterways. A civil engineering group says the nation needs to spend \$3.3 trillion in the next decade to fix infrastructure and there is currently a \$1.4 trillion funding gap.

Now that the election is finally over, a few facts about two of our Presidents. In 1899, William McKinley was the first President to ride in an automobile, a Locomobile in Washington D.C. In 1902, President Teddy Roosevelt was the first President to appear in public in a car. He began a tour of the New England states, leaving New York City and toured Connecticut by car. In 1910, he was the first President to fly in an airplane and in 1913, the first President to dive in a submarine.

One million more Americans traveled on Thanksgiving than last year because of a boost in consumer confidence according to AAA.

Uber and Lyft have overtaken taxis as the main travel source for business. Taxi use is down 68% since the first quarter of 2014 according to Certify's quarterly spendmart report.

Have you been naughty or nice? remember, he's watching you all year.



November 26, 2017

WISHING EVERYONE A MERRY CHRISTMAS & a
GREAT 2017