

CONTEMPORARY HISTORICAL VEHICLE ASSOCIATION, Inc.

OLD CARS AND NEW LAWS

PLUS WHATSUUP HERE AND THERE

By Larry Becker



As they prepare for winter, many states are paying more for road salt due to a shortage of supply. Many states are seeing an 8% increase in the cost of the salt. Minnesota also reports a shortage of trucks to haul the salt meaning that some cities are not able to build up their stockpiles as fast as they would like.

The National Park Service is considering a proposal to raise entrance fees at all federal parks.

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

Electric companies and several auto makers in several states have a new energy saving tool that will send a message directly to electric vehicles, postponing their battery charge until after peak hours, unless the owner overrides it. Drivers will receive in their car's-in-dash controls or via a mobile app a day in advance, alerting them to the scheduled delay. If the owner needs to power up immediately, they can.

The drawback is that by using power at that time, they will be paying the peak rate. The fee for charging can vary by day and time of day.



ARIZONA

Plans for a 22-mile extension of the Loop 202 freeway around the Phoenix area's southern edge are nearing final approval, and the owners of about 200 homes have been told to get ready to find a new place to live.

CALIFORNIA

The Los Angeles City Council has voted to ask city lawyers to draft a measure to prevent companies from auctioning off parking spaces through new mobile apps such as Monkeying Parking and Haystack. The person in the spot shares the money paid to the company, which hires drivers to circle neighborhoods and snap up prime spaces.

A plan to charge a toll to pedestrians and bicyclists will be examined once again by Golden Gate Bridge officials as the agency looks to keep itself in the black. If approved, the plan would be implemented in 2017. From May 1937 to December 1970, a pedestrian toll was charged and collected via a coin turnstile and cost ten cents. The district estimates roughly 6,000 bike riders and 10,000 pedestrians use the span daily during peak summer periods.

A yearlong California study of motorcyclists lane-splitting has concluded the practice is no more dangerous than motorcycling in general, if the rider is traveling at speeds similar to or only slightly faster than the surrounding traffic. Lane splitting occurs when a motorcyclist passes other vehicles by riding between them along the lane line. California and Nevada are the only two states that do not bar the practice, frowned on by many car drivers who consider it a safety hazard. Nevada only recently approved lane splitting. (Lane splitting information from Tony Bizjal of the Sacramento Bee).

A nightly, constantly changing display of 25,000 white lights on the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge designed by New York artist Leo Villareal is set to end its two year run early next year. But the San Francisco Chronicle reports that if the creators of the installation can raise \$4 million by Dec. 31st, the lights can become a long term fixture and the bridge can remain what's been billed as "the world's largest illuminated sculpture".

COLORADO

A parking scam using invalid pre-paid debit cards has cost the city of Aspen an estimated \$600,000 in lost revenue since 2010, The Aspen Times reports.

DELAWARE

Truckers could see cops on the lookout for Delaware Turnpike toll evaders along streets in Newark by the end of the year, the News Journal reports. The state Dept. of Transportation is looking to reinstate money for special duty patrols along roads restricted to local deliveries only to slow down declining commercial revenue on Interstate 95.

The city of Rehoboth Beach is preparing to add two public charging stations for electric vehicles under a one-year trial.

D.C.-WASHINGTON

Revenue from tickets issued by traffic cameras has decreased over the past year, and might end up more than \$70 million under projection, the Washington Post reports.

GEORGIA

The bridge on the South Rome bypass now bears the name of State Patrol trooper Donward Francis Langston, who died on duty in 1983.

INDIANA

Officials say work should start soon on the building of a new Interstate 65 interchange in the southern suburbs of Indianapolis. The state's highway dept. has selected two contractors to build the \$16 million interchange at Greenwood's Worthsville Road, about 10 miles south of Interstate 465.

Drivers of moped scooters with engines of 50 cubic centimeters or less will need to buy license plates and take a street sign test beginning next year.

KENTUCKY

Construction workers have set the first steel beams on the new Interstate 65 Bridge that will connect downtown Louisville with Jeffersonville as part of the \$2.3 million Ohio River Bridges Project, the Courier-Journal reports.

LOUISIANA

The GreenRide program to help coordinate carpooling could be available on line by the end of the year. The Capital Region Planning Commission has been awarded a grant from the state for a soft-ware program designed to help connect commuters to share rides to and from work.

MARYLAND

Police in Rockville have issued 730 tickets to drivers for passing stopped school buses in Montgomery County in the past nine months. Police say that the number is too high and too many motorists do not obey the law against passing stopped school buses.

MICHIGAN

The state's "Pink Ribbon" license plates cost \$30 on top of normal registration fees; \$25 of that goes to the state's breast cancer screening

fund. It costs an extra \$10 to renew each year, all of which goes to the fund.

MISSOURI

State highway officials are using more than 250 electronic signs around the state to try to cut down on dangerous driving. The messages will vary month by month.

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico transportation officials are hoping an experiment along historic Route 66, will curb speeding. The road uses a series of rumble strips to create music. The driver will hear the tune as long as the speed limit is obeyed.

NORTH CAROLINA

School districts are hoping lawmakers restore money for driver education training because the state requires it but has not provided funding. Districts can charge each student up to \$65 for each course, whose total cost can be as much as \$350.

PENNSYLVANIA

The city of Philadelphia expects to take in \$3.5 million in fines this year from red light cameras. Philadelphia has used the cameras since 2005 and was the first city in Pennsylvania to try them.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The South Carolina Dept. of Transportation is projecting that by the year 2040, the state will need to spend another \$70 billion on transportation needs - \$60 billion of that on roads and bridges.

SOUTH DAKOTA

The main artery through the motorcycle mecca of Sturgis has been permanently made into five lanes.

TEXAS

State transportation officials are pushing for construction of a toll road, even though many towns near the planned route are condemning the project. The Northeastern Gateway is part of the state's 10-year plan for transportation projects.

UTAH

Driver's licenses are a storied rite of passage and mark of independence for teenagers across the USA but in Utah they are out of reach for most kids in foster care. State workers say just 15 of nearly 1,000 foster children who are 16 and older have their license.

WASHINGTON

Visiting Mount Rainer and Olympic national parks could be more expensive next year, if proposed fee increases are approved. The cost for a car would increase from \$15 to \$23, annual passes from \$30 to \$50 and the charge for one person would increase from \$5 to \$12.

WHAATSUUP HERE AND THERE

A penny for your thoughts! This year a penny is expected to cost 1.6 to produce, thanks to the high price of zinc. Annual total loss to produce will run in the millions.

A survey by the National Highway Safety Administration on how to hold a steering if it was a clock, say that 59% hold it at 10 and 2, 23% at 9 and 3, 7% at 8 and 4, and 4% at 11 and 1. The correct answer is 9 and 3.

Tesla has unveiled a new version of the luxury electric car maker's Model S sedan that includes all-wheel drive and self-driving "auto pilot" features.

Bikers welcome. According to a recent survey, Alaska has more motorcycle riders per capita than any other state.

July 10th, 2015 will be National Collector Car Appreciation Day.

Did you know that Studebaker made electric cars and trucks from 1902 until 1912? They stopped because gasoline was only 10 cents per gallon cheaper than batteries. Thomas Edison drove one until the late 1920s.

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28 October 2014

