

2045: The Unsubscribed

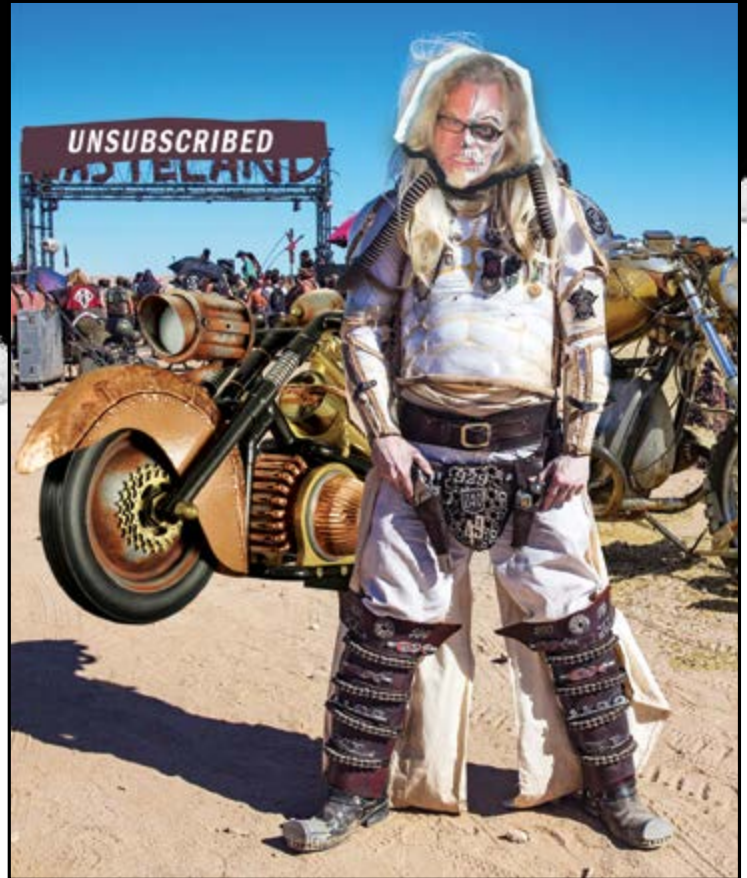
The (not so distant) Future of Motorcycling

EDITOR'S NOTE: Koz has been writing for us for over 12 years and this is his 100th article - I suggested he do something different, a prediction about the future of motorcycling, and this is what we got. Is LSD legal in Cali now? Man who knows. But I guess writers always have sources... **CD**

By Gary Koz Mraz

Who will the motorcyclists be a generation from now? What will they be riding and where will they be riding it to? If you're reading this, you'll be very happy that you ride now. The bad news is there is no good news. Motorcycles will inevitably be mandated OFF America's freeways and highways because of self-driving vehicles. Think about it. Unless you're on a self-driving motorcycle (which is as appealing as a jail sentence) snaking through computer controlled traffic and lane splitting just won't be tolerated. "In the name of public safety," human error is the last thing government agencies will allow. Drones will be the new "Enforcers" of this future and nobody will escape the scrutiny and punishment of the law. It's happening right now in countries like China where two-wheeled vehicles a NOT allowed on any Chinese freeways. And by the way, China currently has more freeways than the USA. Obviously, in the future combustion engines will no longer be legal for two-wheeled vehicles. Again this has happened in China, 80% of all two-wheeled vehicles are already electric. So just who will these future rider's be and where will they be going?

They will likely be a bunch of pussies who ride from wheat grass kiosks to coffee shops. Unfortunately, the chilling statistics on diminishing testosterone in men and the financial stress of future generations will relegate most of these new riders to very short commutes on wimpy electric scooters. The long arduous commutes on the 405 freeway are eliminated and the long distance drive-times to Vegas via self-driving vehicles, significantly reduced. Scooting along PCH with thousands of tourists will be as adventurous as it gets. The super wealthy bourgeoisie will have ultra-modern self-standing, super-powered, smart motorcycles they ride on exclusive fee-based mountain roads. And yes, they will be able to ride any of their extensive collection of loud petroleum burning classic/vintage motorcycles via substantial permit fees and luxury taxes. The good news is, since restrictions will be so oppressive, legions of renegade riders will be running rampant, dodging the legal systems -- the rise of the "Outlaw Biker" will emerge once again. Really, the "Ride to Live" mentality is likely to become far more pervasive in a restrictive society and will spawn an entire generation of Mad Max motorcyclists. The "Born Free" millennial riders of today will soon



become the angst-ridden senior citizens in this brave new world of relentless media marketing and social monitoring. Advertising in the future will be called "Personalizing" and brand messaging will be a digital torrent relentlessly selling an ever changing, customized personal experience. Re-trending fashion, foods and fun with minute-by-minute marketing attacks selling a daily deluge of "Buy, Die or Unsubscribe". The new renegade bikers will become the "Unsubscribed". These aging millennials, sporting plaid shirts, graying beards and balding heads will be really pissed off at the barrage of social media marketing and mind control and these old-as-hell angels won't take it anymore. They will ride...they will ride in legions and they won't be held hostage by legal restrictions or social pressure. Drones will become the new "Enforcers" of the future, but the future generation of outlaw bikers will have within their ranks, super-hackers of the highest caliber. Equipped with

high power electromagnetic scramblers, hand held lasers, and of course their own pocket-sized, attack drone killers. Ultimately, the millions of renegade riders will demand sovereignty and an amendment by "The Convention of the States" grants South Dakota independence from the union allowing these Outlaw Bikers the legal freedom to live life on their own terms. So what does this all mean to us motorcyclists right now? We have the best of all worlds; most American roads are still wide open. Whether we ride the streets of Sturgis, mountains of Mojave Desert or the Pacific Coast our highways and byways are relatively accessible. Ride more, ride longer and enjoy the road because perhaps sooner than you may think, it will all change.

Ride safe, Koz Mraz

*P.S. For a taste of a Mad Max's world of the Unsubscribed attend Wasteland Weekend 2017
September 27th - October 1st.
www.wastelandweekend.com*