

# Make Better Choices

By Mark Caldwell

I like Arnold Schwarzenegger. Oh sure, he's not the first person that comes to mind when you think of great actors. And I don't agree with everything he does or stands for. But I do respect what he has accomplished. When he was a teenager, he started dreaming and planning about coming to America from his home town in Austria. He worked hard at it, and made it. He set goals to become the #1 bodybuilder in the world, and he did that. He set goals to achieve in the movies and then in politics, and he has done those things, too.

But with all the things I like about him, and as well as he has done in life, even Arnold can make bad choices. You may have heard about the accident he got into with his son on his motorcycle. Arnold ended up with about 15 stitches in his lip. Oh sure, he made some good choices along the way, such as at least they were wearing helmets. Otherwise it would likely have been much worse. But one bad choice was that he never got his motorcycle endorsement for his license. Yes, believe it or not, the Governor was riding illegally. What a shame...and what a bad example.

His story is that he just never got around to it and didn't think much of it. By not making a choice **to** do it, he effectively made a choice to **not** do it. Unfortunately, this is all too common in our society. We are great procrastinators, thinking we'll get around to it later. But somehow later never comes. "Later" does not appear on your calendar anywhere.

So what bad choices have you been making? Or what have you been procrastinating about? Is it time for your bike to have a regular check-up? Need new tires? Helmet out of date? Riding gear getting a little flimsy? Purchased that life insurance you've been meaning to get? Are you out of practice thanks to the record rainfall we have had? Just how long has it been since you thought about safe riding practices? Been meaning to get around to reading that book you bought by David Hough, but just haven't found the time?

**NOW** is the time. Don't put it off any longer. Make better choices, starting today. Let's get ready for the riding season. This rain won't last forever!