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419.937.4341

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Board Seat "A"

### Tim "T.J." Johnson ABATE of OHIO FOUNDATION

Board Seat "B"

Garrison "Cowboy" Whitman 330.201.1330

### REGIONAL DIRECTORS

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330.428.2083

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419.307.3506

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330.280.3932

### Region 9

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740.963.2738

### Region 10

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### Region 11

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### Region 14

**Pete Barnes** 

419.722.9941

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330.201.1330



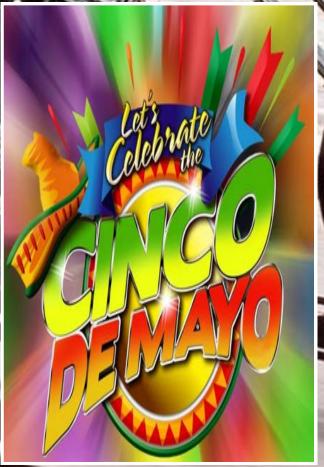


"IT DOES NOT MATTER
WHAT YOU RIDE
WE ALL RIDE FOR
FREEDOM OF THE ROAD"

## We Want You



## To Ride With Us!



### **ABATE of OHIO**

The mission statement of ABATE of Ohio is to promote and defend motorcyclist's freedom, safety and awareness through education and legislation to make Ohio the best place to ride.

# NOTICE

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### **MAILING ADDRESS**

ABATE of OHIO P.O. BOX 313 Weston, OH 43569



HOTLINE

Call the **HOTLINE** anytime for any info or to contact any officer

1-800-25-BIKER

ABATE of OHIO encourages all members to submit letters, articles or cartoons they feel may be of interest to fellow members.

ABATE of OHIO supports the rights of ALL motorcyclists,

ABATE of OHIO does not endorse any products or services other than its own.

### DISCIFILMED

The thoughts and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the ABATE of OHIO board and it's members.

# CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD NIEWS STOCK

Hi Friends,

This is the best time of the year in my book, because we get to start riding. But what if we could not go for a ride because we can't find fuel for bikes or the parts are not available? What if they say that my bike is too old and I can't get a license for it? So, please read the next paragraph and help.

Read and stay up to date on the following issues: **Right to Repair** and **Right to Modify**. "Those two things are what a lot of us do for fun." **Clear labeling for renewable fuel** is what we need so we know what we are putting in our internal combustion motors, so we can have fun riding. **End of Life Directives** must be kept at bay so that we can keep having fun. And we need to **Protect the Motorcycle Ecosystem**. If we lose the Ecosystem, we will lose everything. Call your Legislators.

This is a reminder of why we do what we do. Last year we passed House Bill 201, which states that we will not be using any of the CARB standards to make laws in Ohio. Things like this House Bill and talking to our Legislators will keep us on our motorcycles.

At the end of May, the 24<sup>th</sup> through June 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will be at Ohio Bike Week, as always at Margaritaville. Please come and visit us at the products trailer and the raffle bike will be there also. Ohio Bike Week's website is up and they have a lot of things planned to keep you busy.

If you have never taken a training class you should think about it. Everyone who goes through it learns something. Go online to register at motorcycle.ohio.gov or call 800-837-4337. After you complete the course, send me a copy of your certificate and I will send back to you half of the \$75 registration fee. You must be an ABATE member in good standing to get the rebate.

I talked about us being back out and riding. These stats show January 1st to April 22nd. Crashes are down a bit (must be all the rain we have had keeping us home). The fatalities are the same though. We should not have this many people dying in less than 4 months!

	Crashes	Fatalities		
2024	434	26		
2023	548	27		

Just in April of 2024 we had 303 crashes. I 75 and US 40 are the two worst roads for crashes, and the worst day is Thursday, and the worst time is 4pm to 6pm. Please ride safe, slow down and be alert.

Ride Within your Limits

### Mike Stock

Chairman of the Board 419-654-5446





# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Ed Schetter

Here we are going into May and I hope to see everyone at the 2024 Awareness Rally. After this Winter and Spring it will be nice to take a ride where I don't have to wear a scuba suit. Let's remind everyone to "Look Twice Save A Life" during May (Motorcycle Awareness Month) and the other 11 months of the year. Everyone come out and bring a friend that is not an ABATE of Ohio member. Don't forget to grab a motorcycle awareness month proclamation from your local municipality. This will show them what we are all about and will show the powers that be in Columbus and around the great State of Ohio the amount of influence we have.

May also brings us Memorial Day. When we need to pause and give thanks to not only those that have given so much to protect our rights, but also their families that have also sacrificed so much in the absence of their loved ones. Thank you to all who served to protect our freedoms and their families.

I was just following a car that I believed contained the parents of a U.S. Marine. It's either that or they enjoyed collecting and displaying U.S. Marine Corp scarlet and gold bumper stickers on their car. One of them really struck a chord with me. It read, "You Only Have the Rights Someone Decided Were Worth Fighting For." Wow, what a statement and so true. All the freedoms we have because someone laced up their boots to fight for them.

Then is becomes our job as a motorcycle rights organization and proud Americans to stand up and make sure that they are not taken away by the same government that so many have served abroad to protect its interests. We cannot allow our rights to be nibbled away at. Quite the contrary, we must defend our rights while expanding them and regaining those which have been lost. Have we gotten back all the rights that seemed to go away during Covid? Even though we have things pretty good here in the Buckeye State, it takes a lot of maintenance to keep it that way.

We currently are in a time of change. How we ride is in question. What we ride is in question. How we power what we ride is in question. How we gather together to ride is in question. How we dress while riding is in question. How we modify and maintain what we ride is in question. And ultimately isn't the right to ride where I want, on what I want, powered by what I want, modified how I want, dressed as I want and with who I want our goal? Then to preserve that freedom for our kids and grand kids.

Be ready when a call to action goes out. Some issues can be settled quickly and some take years of work. Let's not lose focus rights, education and safety are the reasons we are here. Let's not let the divide that continues to grow in this country let the powers that be divide us. (You know Divide and Conquer and other cliches) Yes, your Rights and Safety are my business.

Proud and grateful,

Ed Schetter Executive Director



# **JULY, 5th ,6th,7th , 2024**

### GATES OPEN 12:00 NOON FRIDAY/ OPEN ALL WEEKEND

PRIMITIVE CAMPING

CARROLL CO. VETERAN'S PARK/ 2038 BRENNER RD.

LIVE BANDS ALL WEEKEND

**RV CAMPING** (reservations required)

CARROLLTON, OHIO 44615

VETERANS VIGIL FRIDAY NIGHT

\$30.00 WEEKEND PASS

**PUBLIC WELCOME !!!!** 

SATURDAY

**INCLUDES GAMPING** 

BIKE RODEO/ BIKE SHOW / TATTOO CONTEST

\$15.00 DAY PASS

**18 AND OVER ID REQUIRED** 

FOOD/VENDORS

**INCLUDES 1 NIGHT CAMPING** 

**CASH ONLY/ATM ONSITE** 

SAVE THE DATE

EMAIL: freedomrallyregion8@gmail.com CONTACTS: TIM 330-243-4273/ KELLY 330-327-3513



ABATE of Ohio Inc. is a "Not for Profit" Organization

All Donations are NOT TAX Deductible

ABATE of Ohio Inc. Events are subject to a 30% Administration Fee



ABATE of Ohio, Inc. Region 8 is pleased to announce our 28th Freedom Rally, July 5 thru 7, 2024, at the Carroll County Veteran's Park, 2038 Brenner Rd NE Carrollton OH 44615. The Rally is a fun filled weekend event consisting of Bike Games, Live Bands, Stage Shows, Vendors, and the Highlight: A Vigil honoring our POW/MIA's. Proceeds from this fundraising event benefit local USA Military Veterans charities and ABATE of Ohio Inc.

ABATE (American Bikers Aimed Towards Education) of Ohio, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to:
"Preserving the rights, improving the image, and promoting safe operating practices of Ohio motorcyclists".

Region 8 consists of Carroll, Stark, and Tuscarawas counties. Some ABATE of Ohio, Inc. accomplishments include:

- Involved in creating the Motorcycle Ohio Enrichment Program, of which each year helps train thousands of new riders and provides continuing skills for the experienced rider.
- Work with ODOT to help raise public awareness of motorcycles.
- > Stage fundraising events to benefit many different charities
- Work to be sure the motorcyclists' interests are represented on legislative issues.

We are asking for your help to be able to continue these accomplishments and help area Veterans.

We offer two forms of Sponsorship to choose from: our Traditional Sponsorship levels, or Promotional Sponsorship opportunities! Promotional sponsorship allows you to provide promotional/give-away items rather than cash for one of our many events! (Please see reverse side for more information.)

Deadline for sponsorship is May 5, 2024.

\*\*Platinum Level Only\*\* - Respond by December 31, 2023, and

have your logo included on our event flyer!

For questions contact: Tim Cordray at 330-243-4273 or freedomrallyregion8@gmail.com .

Stay up to date on the Rally at our Facebook page: (Please Note - This event is for those 18 years & Older!)



ABATE of Ohio, Inc. is a 501 € 4 "not for profit" organization. As a sponsor supporter, your contribution is deductible as a business expense for advertising, however, cannot be used as a charitable contribution.



ABATE of Ohio, Inc. Region 8 is pleased to announce that Freedom Rally #28 will again take place July 5 thru 7, 2024 at the Carroll County Veteran's Park, 2038 Brenner Rd NE Carrollton OH 44615. Gates will open at Noon on Friday and close at Noon on Sunday. We hope to see you there!

### Vendor prices for the weekend event :

- 10'x10' space \$10.00 per space with submission postmarked before June 15, 2024/\$15.00 after June 15, 2024 (ABATE Members receive a 10% discount). No credit cards accepted.
- Vendor worker weekend pass admission \$25.00 per person (Workers must be 18 years & Older)
- Worker pass includes primitive camping (No electric hook-up; No pets please.)

NOTE: All Food & Tattoo vendors must obtain proper permit(s) from the Carroll County Board of Health prior to the event and will be subject to inspection by a Health Board Representative. Call the Board of Health at 330-627-4866 for more information.

Food vendors must supply their own food grade hose for water hookup.

Vendors may begin setup on Thursday (July 4, 2024) at Noon.

Food/Tattoo vendors must be set-up by 9:00am Friday (July 5, 2024) for Health Department inspections.

There are no full RV Hookups, No one under 18, No Pets, No Refunds, No Exceptions.

Stay up to date on the Rally at our Facebook page:



Questions? Please contact Kelly Oyer by Phone (330-327-3513) OR Email (kellyo7654@gmail.com)

#### FREEDOM RALLY VENDOR FORM

10x10 Space (Qty) @ \$10.00 (\$15.00 after June 15, 2024) per space =	\$
Abate Member 10% Discount (Applies to Vendor Space only)	\$
Vendor Worker(s) (Qty) @ \$25.00 per person (18 years & Older) =	\$
Optional Electric Hookup (Limited Availability & Vendor to supply their own 100' cord) Food Vendors (\$50.00 per cord) Non-Food Vendors (\$30.00 per Cord)	\$
TOTAL:	\$

/endor Name :		
/ending Product :		
Contact Person :		
Address :		
Phone :	Email :	

Checks Payable to: Abate of Ohio, Inc / Region 8

Mail Payment or Correspondence to:

Kelly Oyer, 6089 Indian Run Ave SE, Waynesburg OH 44688



# THE BUCKEYE LAW GROUPING INJURY ATTORNEYS

OVER \$1 BILLION RECOVERED BY OUR ATTORNEYS IN THE US!

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OUR MANAGING PARTNER
GREGORY GUDIN RIDES
MOTORCYLES JUST LIKE YOU!

**CAR ACCIDENT • SLIP & FALL** 

**WORKERS' COMP • MEDICAL MALPRACTICE** 

127 Public Square, Ste 1540 Cleveland, OH 44114 216-373-0038



SATURDAY Rally

May 4, 2024

### 9:30-11:00am REGISTRATION

12:00 noon Ride to Statehouse

- = Meet at Farrow H/D at Northstar 7754 St. Route 36/37 E., Sunbury Oh I-71, Exit 131
- = \$5 donation per person "for the cause"

= Parade departs at 12 Noon sharp for an escorted parade to the State Capital Rally at the **Ohio State House** 

After Rally Party

2:00 - 5:00pm

Join your host, ABATE of Ohio, Inc. Region 9 for the After Rally Party Ohio Brewing Company - 421 E. 2nd Ave, Columbus, Oh. 43201





HARLEY DAVIDSON



For more information: Mike Stock 419-654-5446, mikestock419@gmail.com

After Rally Info Chris Lappert 740-963-2738

ABATE of Ohio, Inc. is a501c(4) "not for profit" organization. All donations are not tax deductible

# LOOK Twice! Save a Life!







**MAY 18, 2024** 

FOR
HIGH/LOW
ROLL SCORE

START/FINISH VAUGHAN'S PUB & GRILL 10983 SR 212 BOLIVAR, OH 44612

VALENTINE
ENTERTAINMENT
DJ NINA
STARTS 4:30 PM

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 11:00 AM / LAST BIKE OUT 12:00 PM LAST BIKE IN 5:30 PM/ \$15.00 SINGLE/ \$25.00 COUPLE

### **PUBLIC WELCOME!**

DINNER IS INCLUDED AFTER THE RIDE!

COVERED DISHES ARE WELCOMED & APPRECIATED

PRE-SALE TICKETS FOR ABATE MEMBERS OF ANY STATE \$10.00

AVAILABLE UNTIL MAY 5, 2024

SEE YOUR COUNTY COORDINATOR OR CALL CONTACTS BELOW

JOIN ABATE DAY OF THE RUN AND RIDE FOR FREE!

All Proceeds to Benefit Initiatives to Protect YOUR Motorcycle Rights

CONTACTS: Mike 330-280-3932 Kelly 330-327-3513

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# DO NOT WAIT TO REGISTER!





### SEPTEMBER 26-29, 2024 ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, Saint Louis, MO 63134-3307

Hotel direct line 314-429-1100. Mention Motorcycle Riders Foundation for conference room rates (deadline Sept. 4, 2024).

Pre-registration for conference through the MRF, PO Box 9090, Peoria, IL 61612

Pre-registration (must be received by Sept. 4, 2024): \$100.00 (current member) / \$120.00 (non-member)

Registration rate after Sept. 4, 2024: \$110.00 (current member) / \$130.00 (non-member)

Registration includes all workshops, workshop materials, and Saturday banquet.

Registration questions call the MRF at 202-546-0983, or email Fred Harrell at fred@mrf.org.

(614) 944-5055

# YOUR PERSONAL INJURY ATTORNEYS.

FAMILY-RUN, VETERAN OWNED.





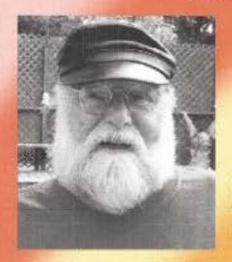
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# ABATE Of Ohio, Region Zero's SUMMER OF BUMMER PARTY 2024 Saturday, June 8th 12:00pm-8:00pm Yellow Dog Saloon

2242 Greenville Rd. Cortland, OH

# ADMISSION: \$20

Admission Includes Meal



In Memory Of: Robert "Bummer" Baldwin

Motorcycle Rights Advocate
Author of "Onward Through the Fog"

Bummer's ABATE Belt Buckle Winner Drawn at 6PM

Proceeds from raffle will go to the Motorcycle Memorial Foundation and The ABATE of Ohio Foundation.

See Any Officer For Tickets Or Find ABATE of Ohio, Region Zero on Facebook

Randy: 330-428-2083

ABATE of Ohio Inc. is a 501(c)4 not-for-profit organization dedicated to preserving the rights, improving the image, and promoting safe operating practices of all Ohio motorcyclists

27th Annual







### Memorial Run May 25, 2024

Starting at: Tavern 101 101 S. Main St. Ada, OH 45801

\$10 Donation Leaving at NOON

This day is to take a day and remember our brothers and sisters of the wind and let them know they may be down

Ending at M.A.H.R.A. Clubhouse Caledonia, OH 43314

### BUT NOT FORGOTTEN.....

For Info Call: Pete: 419-722-9941

Ed: 419-937-4341





May is Motorcycle Awareness Month



A.B.A.T.E of Ohio, Inc. is a 501(c)4 "not for profit" Organization. All funds are not tax deductible





### VFW Post 5645 Presents:

# **ΔO**<sup>th</sup> Annual

# TnT Run





# Toy Run 2024

To benefit Toys for Tots and Children's Christmas Charities in NW Ohio



Starting at:

Reineke Ford Lincoln 12000 C. R. 99

September 21, 2024 Noon Ride Out Sign In 10:00



Rain or Shine We Will Ride

Quarter Beef Raffle
Donated by:
Huntington Acres, LLC
Sam and Jamie
419-299-3510 or
567-208-3919
For Info and Tickets

\$10 Donation or \$5 and a toy

Info: Ed 419-937-4341 Pete 419-722-9941

LIVE LOCAL Rock and Roll



Poker Run then a party at: Findlay Eagles Club #2118 4023 C.R. 220 Findlay, OH 45840







Proceeds to benefit :Toys for Tots, Christmas charities and A.B.A.T.E. of Ohio Inc.

A.B.A.T.E of Ohio, Inc. is a 501(c)4 "not for profit"
Organization. All funds are not tax deductible





# 2022 Crash Statistics NHTSA Report Mixed News For Bikers

This week, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) released its final 2022 Fatality Analysis Reporting System traffic crash data. NHTSA reported 42,514 total fatalities in the U.S. in 2022. That is a 1.7% decrease from the previous year.

However, the final numbers show mixed results for motorcyclists. Sadly, overall rider deaths on our nation's roadways increased by 1.2%. The official number of motorcyclists killed in 2022 was 6,218, an increase of 75 deaths compared to 2021.

Biker deaths now account for 15% of all fatalities on the road, up 1% from 2021. Large truck, bus and pedestrian deaths also saw increases, while passenger car occupants saw a decrease. The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) remains concerned that these numbers may justify lawmakers taking a closer look at motorcyclists and our place in the transportation network. We surely do not need to be singled out for further scrutiny and have our freedoms limited.

Fortunately, the final number of motorcyclists injured dropped by 2.6% in 2022. Two years ago, there were 82,687 biker injuries in crashes, down 2,211 from 84,898 the previous year.

While every crash is unique, there are some disturbing trends. Alcohol-impaired fatal crashes account for 29% of all motorcyclist deaths. Across the nation, 7.8% of fatal crashes involved a "distracted driver." Personal responsibility is a core value of the MRF. We must ensure we are all making the right decisions to protect ourselves and others on the road. If we don't, who will?

### **Ask Our Lawyer**



by Rod Taylor - ABATE Legal Services

### WHY WOULD THEY TELL ME THAT?

In an at-fault State, when it's the other driver's fault and they have adequate insurance, make the claim under the at-fault driver's policy, not your own collision policy. We just recently saw a case where both drivers (the at fault and not at fault) were insured by the same company, and the insur-

ance company told the not at fault driver to submit the claim under their own policy. That insurance company then denied them a rental car and put limits on their payout for accessories, etc., based on their own collision policy. Had they filed the claim against the other driver, none of those limits would have come into play.

There's something terribly wrong with insurance companies getting away with this, so don't let them! If you have questions about your insurance policy, or what limits you should carry, contact ABATE LEGAL. - Attorney Hilary Barnes

### CAN ABATE SUE THE STATE FOR NOT FIXING POTHOLES?

**Q:** I understand that if the state or a municipality is informed of a road hazard, "pothole," etc., and that if they neglect to fix it in a timely manner and someone has an accident because of it or damages their vehicle, that the municipality is liable. If this is correct, can ABATE, rather than the motorcyclist, sue the state for putting us in danger because of their inaction to fund the repair of dangerous stretches of roadway?

**A:** No. The actual cause of action that gives a person the right to sue doesn't occur until that person suffers a loss – sad to say there's no effective way to compel a government agency to do something that is in their discretion to do or not do. The only right we have is to ask for damages once a loss has happened. Additionally, as we have explained before, the governmental agency must have actual knowledge of the existence of the hazard before they can be held liable for a loss. That's why the RoadHazard.org is so important. We keep a record of all the hazards that people report to us, so we can help prove that the agency had knowledge of the hazard. Keep those reports coming - we are doing some good!

### BONDING ABATE OFFICERS WHO HANDLE OUR CASH

Bonding officers who handle ABATE cash is an absolute must. Here is how it works. This insurance, called a fidelity bond, helps you protect ABATE against theft and reduce our risk of loss. Employee bonds are a common part of an overall business insurance package. With a fidelity bond on money handlers, we are covered for theft of these funds. A fidelity bond is insurance that you can buy through the company that handles your business insurance policies. The cost varies greatly depending on the type of business you operate and the amount of cash or other assets that are handled by the bonded employees. If an employee steals from ABATE, the insurance covers the loss. Then the insurance/bonding company gets to chase our **ex-member** for the money.

### **BLOOD IS THICKER THAN WATER?**

**Q:** I just bought a pricey motorcycle with lots of horsepower. Because of my age, the insurance was more than I could afford, so I canceled the collision portion and opted to only pay liability. This dropped my insurance premiums significantly, but here is my problem. My brother-in-law borrowed the motorcycle to take a spin around the block. Well, it turns out that he was not as experienced as he led me to believe, lost control on the ride and totaled my brand-new motorcycle. I am just sick about it. What do you advise me to do?

**A:** If your brother-in-law has a motorcycle, ask to look at his policy. He may have coverage that would replace your bike. You should also check his auto policies to see if they provide coverage. Most likely, his auto policies do not afford coverage, but you should look at the language of the policy just in case. I have seen auto policies that would arguably allow coverage for this loss. If you have questions, call. If you strike out, you are then faced with confronting your brother-in-law about paying for the bike. If he refuses, you have two choices: 1. decide blood is thicker than water and forget it, or 2. sue him. Good luck at the family reunions on choice number 2.

Rod Taylor

ABATE Legal Services

www.abatelegal.com

### The ABATE of Ohio Foundation

ABATE of Ohio, Foundation Report

Hey everyone,

Well everything is all set for our annual bike raffle and it is now out on tour around Ohio for all to see and purchase tickets. Please contact me if you know some place we can get it into or if you need to get it for an event so you can put it on display.

I'd like to thank everyone in advance for all your help in selling tickets on this raffle that is an easy way to help raise funds for all involved.

Tim Cordray, ABATE of Ohio Foundation COB



MAY 9:30 am - 2:00 pm

4 State Awareness Rally

MAY 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

4 After Rally Party

MAY 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

5 Region 8 Meeting

MAY 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

12 Region 16 Meeting

MAY 11:00 am

18 Look Twice Save A Life Dice Run

MAY 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

18 Region Zero May Meeting

MAY May 20 @ 8:00 am - May 21 @ 7:00 pm

20 Bikers Inside the Beltway 2024

MAY 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

25 Region 14 Memorial Run





It's Spring! It's Winter! Wait for it......You just never know in Ohio! LOL

As we get older, we realize (normally too late) that time is a fleeting moment. When we are young, we have all the time in the world to do anything. Then the years go by, and we come to the moment that we are out of time. So that leads me into being SO excited to attend my first BITB in May. Registered, got the hotel reserved and was dreaming of riding my bike by myself all the way to the Capitol. Thinking that I am not getting any younger and I better start doing things I want to do while I still can.

Well then life throws you a curve ball and you get invited to a 2-day seminar on Motorcycle Safety. Awesome, that is great till you look at the date and realize it is the same 2 days as BITB. SERI-OUSLY! What luck that I have. So, I had an email chat with Jay, and he said go the seminar and report back to me because he wanted to go to the Seminar too. The best laid plans, right? So, here's to hoping that I will be able to attend BITB 2025! All of you that are going, ride safe and enjoy!!!!

I have been in the works with the AMA to have the MRF booth and Abate of Ohio's booth included in their upcoming Vintage Days (July 26 – 28). All that has worked out and we all realize that we all need to work together now more than ever. Huge thanks to Bob and MacKenzie for helping me make this happen. I will be working on volunteer signup sheets; just give me a bit of time and we will get all that completed! I would like to have people who can just work for one day and give others a chance to visit Vintage Days, it is a lot of fun! Now that doesn't mean you cannot camp out for the weekend as several of us are going to do!

Remember when I said best laid plans and curve balls? Well, it hit again. This time I was asked to speak at the Women in Wind's International Conference being held in Toledo. Wow, I am so excited, wait....... what's the date? You've got to be kidding! It is the Saturday that I will be at Vintage Days!! Well, I cannot pass this monumental chance to speak to so many likeminded women! So, I will be at Vintage Days then run up to Toledo and then back!

Had my birthday in March and of course the dreaded tags for bikes, cars etc. So, this year I treated myself and I got vanity plates for my car and 2 of my bikes. When the weather gets better, I will line them up and take a picture for the ABJ. Anything to get us noticed!!! Hopefully people will ask me what MRF REP means! Oh, so that leads me to a little funny! They had to print a paper one till I got the real one, right? Well, there was no space, so it read MRFREP. One of my young co-workers came in one day and said: Hey Sherry, what does MR FREP mean! We all got a hoot out of that one!!!!!!!



May is Motorcycle Awareness Month! I will be riding in the annual ride to our Capitol building in Columbus along with I pray that YOU will be there too!!!!

I have not done swap meets basically this year and I am going to try to go to Fairs, Festivals and car/bike shows. See if anything there works out.

I designed a license plate frame with the MRF designation and a front plate with our new Abate logo and website. As soon as I get those, I will post them for you to see on our Abate of Ohio website. I think they are going to be really cool!! Anything to get us noticed!

Please renew your membership or join. While one voice can make a difference, many voices are heard louder! I appreciate each one of my Ohio MRF members. If you have a change of address, number, or email please let me know!

Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

If you would like me to attend your meeting and do a presentation to your members drop me a line. It does not have to be your Region members, maybe you belong to a HOG group or another club or group. **We must support one another.** 

### Please follow my Facebook page for all the latest news etc!!

### CHECK OUT MY FACEBOOK PAGE: MRF – Sherry Hill, Ohio Rep

Call me, drop me an email if you want any information and join the MRF for just \$35 a year. You can join as an individual, group, club, bike repair or builder, etc. Just ask me!

### **AUTO RENEWAL IS AVAILABLE!!!**

YOUR VOICE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE, TOGETHER WE CAN INIATE CHANGE!!!!!!!

Sherry Hill, Ohio MRF Rep 330-415-6272 <a href="mailto:shill.ohiomrf@gmail.com">shill.ohiomrf@gmail.com</a>



### Right To Repair Must Be Protected

### **Bob Kay - IMA Chairman**

The Right to Repair affects all of us whether we work on our own bikes or have a shop work on them. The information and tools necessary to make repairs must be available to independent dealers and individuals. Not everyone who owns a newer motorcycle (under ten years old), wants to go to a franchise dealer (regardless of the brand), to get their bike serviced or repaired. We should not be penalized with the threat of losing our warranty for taking our bikes to our favorite independent dealer, whom we have trusted and supported for years. Furthermore, if your bike is over ten years old, most franchise dealers will not even work on that bike.

Most bikers I've met enjoy working on their bikes as much as riding them. It is part of our culture to hang out with our buddies and help each other. Most franchise dealers would prefer to eliminate independent dealers and then charge us outrageous prices for parts and labor. Franchise dealers and manufacturers work hard to restrict parts and updated information from the Independent Motorcycle Aftermarket. Even worse than the high prices is the ridiculous amount of time they want to tie your bike up for service in the middle of riding season. The existence of independent dealers is essential for the survival of our culture, riding lifestyle and the future of motorcycling.

Harley stopped the production of carbureted bikes in 2007 and will not work on your carbureted bike because it is over ten years old. Few have the technicians on staff with experience to work on older bikes. If you own a 2007 – 2013 Harley, where do you go for an electronic fuel injection tune? Harley no longer supplies programable ECUs for these bikes and the EPA has restricted the Aftermarket from selling the current generation of modules to street bike owners. There is even a campaign to penalize any dealer willing to tune your fuel-injected bike. All this is supposedly to help create a clean climate. However, the EPA will not even publish emission standards/limits that are acceptable for the Independent Motorcycle Aftermarket so that it can manufacture the components that will be environmentally compliant. It may seem like motorcycle manufacturers would like to sell you a new bike, service it twice a year and sell you another new bike in five years, but End-of-Life Directives for motorcycles are another issue for discussion at another time.

The MRF has been fighting for our Right to Repair and has pledged its full support to the Independent Motorcycle Aftermarket to continue this battle. We cannot do it alone. We need your support by joining the IMA today so that we may continue fighting this attack on our rights and lifestyle. I will address our Right to Modify and build custom bikes in your next issue of the American Biker Journal.

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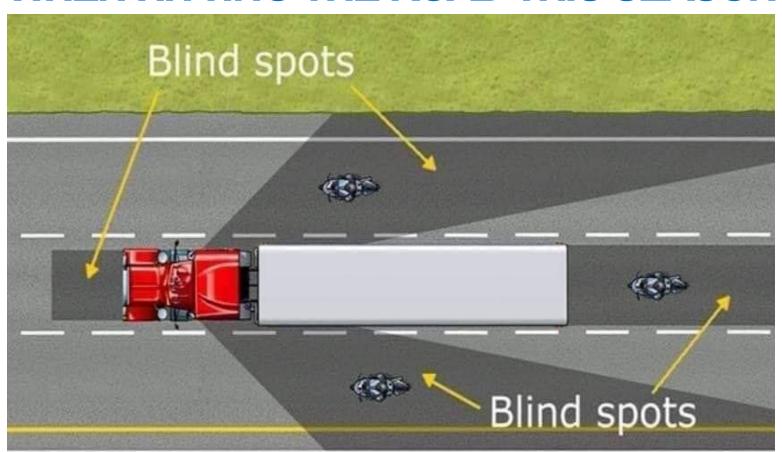
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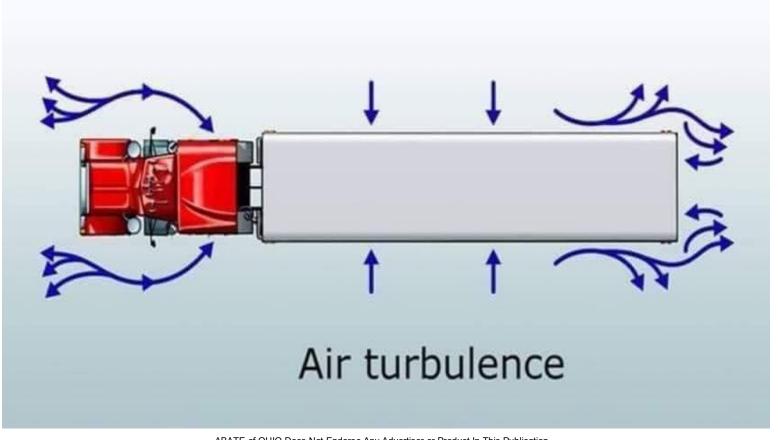
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- 1)... To initiate, endorse and sponsor educational programs such as rider safety, public awareness, legislative and affirmative action and, individual freedoms and rights.
- 2)... To create and promote a positive public image of motorcyclists and motorcycle groups and to dispel and disprove media hype, unfounded propaganda and the "Hollywood" image.
- 3)... To encourage goodwill and mutual understanding among motorcyclists, law enforcement personnel and the general public.
- 4)... To serve as an information source on matters pertaining to current laws, pending legislation, personal rights, political inclinations of elected officials and their constituents, and voter awareness.
- 5)... To act as a central responsive agency to devise and coordinate recreational, legislative, educational, and charitable activities



### SUPPORT YOUR MOTORCYCLE RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS



















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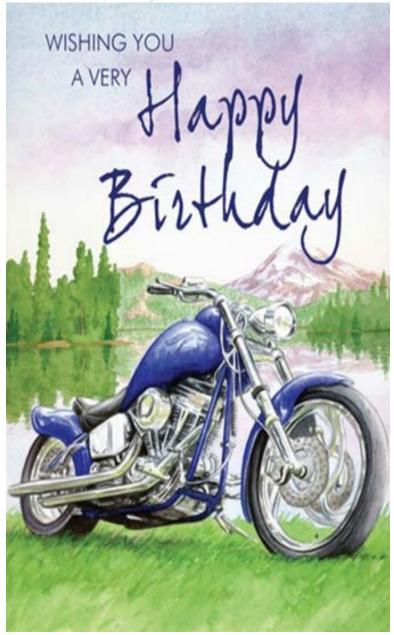
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Lion Man ... Legislative Director 330.718.3066

**TA Brown ...** Road Captain 330.727.8286

**Barb Tittle ...** Treasurer 330.677.1845

**Donna Sam ...** Membership 330.540.6210

The Freedoms you surrender today, are the freedoms that your grandchildren will never know existed!

### Randy Kibler ... Director 330.428.2083

For those that partake in some of the St. Patrick day events and debauchery, I hope you made it back and without legal troubles or hospital bills. We have plenty of time for those later. Maybe the time for that would be our "Summer of Bummer Party" June 8th. Ask around. We highly recommend it or you can be L7 because it's sure to be a blast.

We also recommend coming to a meeting. Not just for the information, but so we can see your faces and have a little fellowship. It's not so much the motorcycles, legislation, education or the ride, but the fellowship amongst us.

The regular riding season is getting really close and with that, Bike Blessings will be popping up. Some of these Blessings will be of long standing while others may be fresh to the scene. Either way, if that is something you do or would like to, keep your eyes peeled and spread the word.

Speaking of Fellowship, Word and Blessings I'll close with a quote from the movie The Siege of Firebase Gloria.

"A little religious communication might not be a bad idea at this stage of the game. Now myself, I don't take any chances, I talk to Mohammed, Buddha, Mr. Jesus H. Christ Himself and any other religious honchos I can come up with."

Take care all!!

### Keith Roller ... Deputy Director

Preparations for the "Summer of Bummer" party are well underway. The meat has been ordered. Mary Kay gets credit for confirming 2 bands. One will play in the afternoon, and a second in the evening. I have not yet heard if Fast Freddie is available to MC. I want to remind everyone on the committee that we will be talking to Chet at Yellow Dog as part of the officers' meeting Tuesday 4/9 @ 5 PM. Please make an effort to attend.

### Lion Man ... Legislative Director 330.718.3066

Well as I write this, I am getting ready to head up to the Cleveland Clinic, to hopefully get out of this sling/harness thing my shoulder has been wrapped up in for the past 6 weeks. So, let's hope when you come to our meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup>, at the Thirsty Frog, you will see me without a sling on.

And you do want to come to the meeting. You will want to hear how your ABATE of Ohio Inc organization has accomplished something that we have been trying to do for over 25 years. You will also find out what you need to do to help increase your chances of living longer to enjoy our lifestyle even more. You will find out what else your ABATE of Ohio Inc. organization is doing for you.

And if that doesn't interest you enough to attend, maybe you will want to find out what the federal and state governments are trying to do to you. You will find out what is happening around the country in other states. Find out what you need to know if you like to travel.

And speaking of state governments, we will have **State Representative Nick Santucci** in attendance to tell you what is happening in the state that will affect us all.

And, as if that isn't enough, you will also be informed as to upcoming events that you may want to attend.

So come to the meeting, become informed, share some thoughts and ideas with fellow Freedom Fighters. And the Thirsty Frog has some good food and cold drinks. You can't go wrong with that.

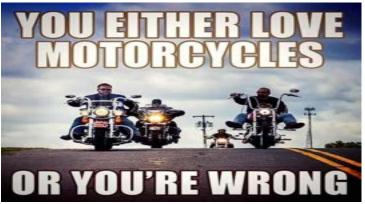
### Lion Man

**TA Brown ... Road Captain** 330.727.8286

Happy April fellow Abate brothers and sisters. So far, the month is truly living out the April showers bring May flowers saying. Hope everyone enjoys, or did enjoy, the rare once in our lifetime total eclipse display on the 8<sup>th</sup> and it will at least be dry and cloud free for the viewing. Being northeast Ohio, I'm not holding my breath very hard.... maybe just cross my fingers.

Anyway, hope to see another good turnout at this month's general membership meeting. Last month had a good showing. I may or may not be able to attend the April meeting as I have begun the Motorcycle Ohio instructor course. The class syllabus shows my weekends for the next 6 weeks are going to be spent learning how to conduct the state training course. Once that is finished, hopefully we can get some time to have some Region members and friends get together for a nice lunch/supper ride or just get out and enjoy the company of good friends and good riding. Until we meet again...

Ride safe, ride often. TA

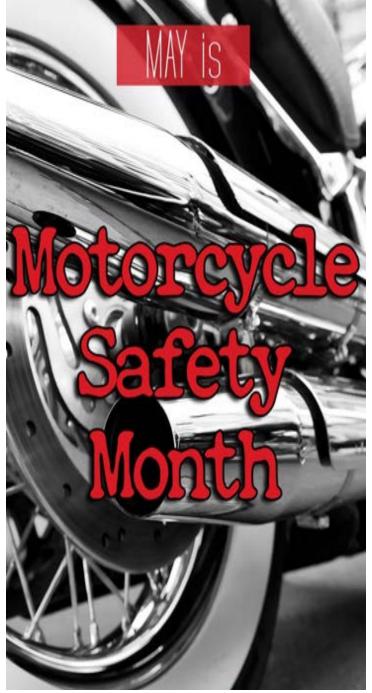


Bertie Morrissey ... Products 330.360.2216

She'll be selling her wares at the meeting.

**Donna Sam ... Membership** 330.540.6210

If you need help signing into the new ABATE state website, give me a call or text. You'll be able to pay your dues easily online, (but then you won't need me anymore, boooo). But... we all still need the personal touch and I'm glad to talk to you all anytime that I might be able to help.





### A Treasure Hunt Search

(Are You Ready to Ride?) by Jenie Miller

The weather has finally warmed up, you finished a rough day and have been dreaming of taking your bike

out all day. First ride of the Year! Time to hop on and go!

The bike has been sitting all winter in the garage just waiting. You remember that last ride of last year like it was yesterday. Surely it's ready to go. But hold on a second! Let's take just a moment though to consider what has happened to your bike since you last rode. Time to slow down as I've found over the years. Part of good training is developing a consistent practice to ensure that you and your bike are truly ready to ride.

One of the first things I like to do in the spring is give my bike a wash before that first ride. Putting my hands on all the parts/pieces of the bike as I wash it often leads to me finding an issue. Kind of an "accidental" on purpose, bike inspection. We've all heard of the items to inspect that should be done before each ride.

Who has time for that? But seriously, we all should. Yesterday I found a loose body panel part, held on by only a single plastic grommet, on the Hypermotard and that would have cost me \$\$\$ to replace had it fallen off. Another time I found a rear brake that wasn't functioning due to air in the line, after sitting through the winter. Easily fixed by re-bleeding the brakes, but without the check only the front brakes would have functioned. Can you imagine what might have happened if full braking had been required?

Let's just address our tires that sat waiting for this first ride: Did you know that it is natural for your motorcycle tire to lose about 1-3 psi of air pressure within a month?

This is what happens to a normal tire, not even one with a leak or another problem. If you parked the bike in September and it's now April, your tire pressure may have dropped somewhere between 6-18 psi. Are you really going to chance it, riding on tires that are low? Go too low, your tire could potentially come off the bead causing to crash.

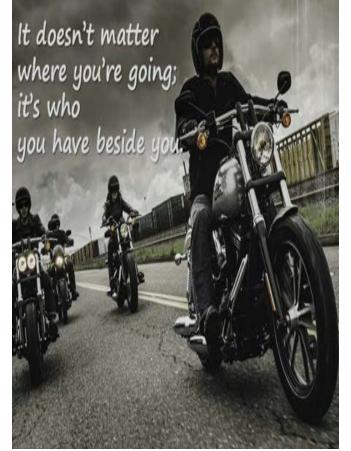
The same goes for the other areas of inspection. You get the idea. One other key point, once your inspection is done, develop a good pre-ride process. One instructor I know always turns left out of his driveway so that he rides into his neighborhoods cul-de-sac, does a tight turn or two, and once the bike is traveling straight, he does several stops, to warm up the tires and more importantly, himself before hitting the road.

Now get out there! Enjoy that first ride this spring.

### 10 TIPS FOR MOTORCYCLE SAFETY **AWARENESS** MONTH For Riders Never assume that drivers can or do see you. Use extra caution when riding through construction areas. Avoid riding in poor weather conditions. Position yourself out of a driver's blind spots. Use your headlights at night and wear reflective tape. For Motorists Reduce your speed and 6 increase stopping distance. Exercise extra caution while at intersections. Check your blind spots before making any lane changes. Have passengers alert you of a motorcycle rider's presence. Stay alert and always be willing to share the road.

### **ABATE of OHIO** State Membership

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#### The MRF's primary goals include:

- Monitoring and influencing federal legislation for any impact on the motorcycling community at large
- Representing street motorcyclists by participating in federal research and advisory committees
- Protecting street motorcyclists from unfair or burden some federal agency restrictions and regulations
- Ending discrimination against street motorcyclists
- Providing all street motorcyclists with direction and information to protect their motorcycling rights
- Promoting motorcycling safety, training, education, licensing and public awareness on American roads



#### WHO WE ARE

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation is the Nation's premiere motorcyclists' rights organization that is chiefly concerned with issues at the national and international levels that impact the freedom and safety of American street motorcyclists. We are also committed to educating rights advocates to improve effectiveness at the state and local levels. The MRF works together with street motorcyclists, State Motorcyclists' Rights Organizations (SMROs), the motorcycle industry, the media and other organizations, assisting them with state and local agendas as well as working with them to influence action and policy in Washington, DC - from the Congress to government departments and agencies to the Office of the President of the United States. We also work with allies in Canada, Europe and Asia to influence talks on vehicle globalizationand harmonization that are proceeding under the United Nations and the World Health Organization.



Mail to: Motorcycle Riders Foundation - PO Box 9090 - Peoria, IL 61612 - Phone: 202.546.0983 - www.mrf.org - mrfoffice@mrf.org

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