

OutSpokin'

Happy
Valentine's
Day



ABATE

OHIO



AMERICAN BIKERS AIMED TOWARDS EDUCATION

FEBRUARY
2026

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330.727.8286

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Looking for Director

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740.624.5254

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Region 12

Looking for Director

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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

All articles and photo's within the contents of this newsletter and our website are the property of ...

ABATE of OHIO

You may not use them without the express written consent of the newsletter editor, webmaster or the association board.

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.

DISCLAIMER

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

Kolman Fuzy



Greetings, ALL ABATE members:

Now that the Holidays are well past us, it's time to get back to whatever constitutes "normal" living these days. As I stated in my last article, there were elections over the ABATE spectrum. On the State level, all the officers up for re-election were retained in office. Terry Wiseman was selected to replace TJ Johnson as Technology Officer. A sincere thank you to TJ for his years in that position, a superlative job over that timespan! On the Regional levels, I do know that Regions 3 and 8 both have new Directors. Thanks to Sherry and Mark for stepping into those roles. As far as my memory tells me, the rest of the active Regions have no changes in Directors (no notes used to write this, subject to correction). As far as issues are concerned, everything is still out there. We need to continue to press for the inclusion of Substitute HB 357 to be included in the Judiciary Committee's agenda. Contact your Representatives and agitate!! There is nothing going on with the lane filtering push that I am aware of at this writing. On the Federal side, go to www.mrf.org and see what is happening and also take action on any of the issues that are important to you. It is simple to do, just fill out the call-to-action letters with your info and they go right to your Legislators.

As we swing into the new year, ABATE is looking toward the Awareness Rally and the State Seminar. This year, we are trying something fairly radical, putting both events on the same weekend. The seminar will be on Saturday, May 2nd and the Awareness Rally will be on May 3rd, which is on the Sunday. This is a departure from having the Awareness Rally on the first Saturday in May. This is an attempt to boost attendance at both events. Information will be forthcoming. Get it on the website, in the OutSpokin', and at your Regional and County meetings.

Speaking of the OutSpokin', I would like to see more Regions posting regional reports and events in it. We have an excellent magazine (thanks, Donna!), that is underutilized. Let's get more content in our magazine and on the website.

There are lots of challenges facing us, I am convinced that we can meet them square on, and deal with them accordingly. Plenty of great riding ahead as well. Maybe take a refresher course with Motorcycle Ohio, to sharpen those skills; or if you are new to motorcycling, take the beginner's course. It can get you that endorsement and maybe save your ass. See you out and about.

Kolman Fuzy

Chairofboard@ABATE.com

614.319.3644 (ABATE #)

614.332.0198 (cell)

2026 Winter Meltdown

Saturday February 21, 2026

5:00PM - 10:00PM

AMERICAN LEGION POST 737

16465 Milton Ave Lake Milton, OH 44429



| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Dinner Hour | Presale \$15 | After Dinner |
| 5:30-6:30 | Call "Donna" | Music From |
| The Magic of | 330 540-6210 | The Syndicate |
| Robert Lane | \$20 at the Door | |



HUGE BASKET RAFFLE



Hosted by ABATE of Ohio, Inc. Region Zero

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ed Schetter



Starting off this report on a positive note. I remembered to type "Feb. 2026" the first time without having to go back over 2025 (with the time needed for publication this is actually the first article I've written in 2026.) So, I got that going for me.

As I write this, I'm getting ready to head to ABATE of Michigan's seminar. An opportunity to hang out with our brothers and sisters from the state up North. For me this event marks the beginning of another year and a great opportunity to recharge. And what a year it's shaping up to be.

And speaking of Seminars, ABATE of Ohio will be trying something new this year and combining our Seminar and the Awareness Rally into one weekend. Saturday, we get together for some learning and Sunday, for awareness. Keep an eye out for more information. I just thought I'd mention it so no one would be alarmed not seeing a Seminar Flyer in this month's OutSpokin'.

This is the point in my February article where I ask if this is the year. So:

Is 2026 the year?

Is 2026 the year we:

Get a RIGHT OF WAY bill passed, let's get this done and not have to go back to our bill sponsors and ask to start over again.

Get a PROFILING bill passed.

Properly define a motorcycle in Ohio, these E-Bikes need accounted for.

Increase our membership numbers to where they deserve to be.

Fill in your own goal for ABATE of Ohio here _____

With the talent and the commitment we have here within our great organization, any and all of these are possible. But it's going to take a lot of work and in many cases it won't be easy. I'm asking for everyone's help to make our goals happen. No one person can do it alone, a small, committed group can give it a good fight, but if we all band together we can achieve.

And we all have one more year experience doing what we do.

So I ask you again: Is 2026 The Year?

Enjoying the ride

Ed Schetter

Proud & Grateful Executive Director
ABATE of Ohio Inc.

Editor's NOTE

Do you want to renew your membership online? How do I do that, you ask? You need to log in first, if you haven't done that, that's where you need to start. I've been asked why we don't utilize the Calendar on the last page of this magazine. It's already on the front page of ABATE.com, all you have to do is scroll down a bit and all the coming

events that you have submitted are right there on the right hand side, under the **EVENTS** heading. I don't know about you, but I DO think that's easier than scrolling through the whole magazine to get there. If you need it in a Calendar view, scroll down a bit more and hit "view calendar". See, easy peasy You can even add the events to your personal calendar.

Give it a go:

<https://abate.com/#:~:text=Read%20More%20%E2%86%92-,EVENTS,-JAN>

The "powers that be" (thanks Kolman) have graciously shared the newest Life Members of ABATE and there are definitely perks to being a life member. If you're not sure what they are, see your director. If you don't have a director, join ABATE of OH, then you will.

The following members have achieved LIFE status:

Doug Miller Region 3
Michael W. Moss Region 9
Michael J. Sibila Region 8
Laura Sibila Region 8
Gilbert Hopper Jr. Region 5
Brian Jordan Region 7
Dan Morgan Region Zero
Jeff Beatty Region Zero
Dan Morgan Region Zero

Thank you for your continued support and membership!! Congratulations!!

At your service....

Donna Sam

Call or text 330.540.6210
donnasam@zoominternet.net



Akron's

DUSTY CHROME Motorcycle Swap Meet

Presented by: Kestel Enterprises, LLC Sponsored by: Misny Riders, Really Protected



Summit County Fairgrounds

229 East Howe Rd, Tallmadge Oh 44278

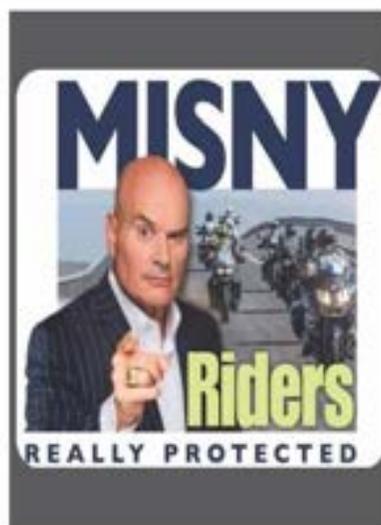
2026

**SUNDAY
FEB. 15th
10 am - 3 pm**

**Buy, Sell or Trade:
Bikes, Parts,
Apparel & More!!**

ADMISSION: \$10

FREE: Children Under 12 & PARKING!



VENDOR SPACES:

10' x 10' Booth

\$40/space

\$45/space after Feb. 7th

All spaces must be paid for prior to show

Vendors must supply own table and chairs.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

of Spaces: _____ x \$40 (after 2/07/26 \$45) = _____

Email: _____

Make Check or Money Order payable to Kestel Enterprises, LLC.

Send to: 1305 Grove St., NE Canton, Ohio 44721

Kestel Enterprises, LLC

2026

Jim @ 330-324-7230
AkronMotorcycleSwapMeet@gmail.com
DustyChrome.com

LOOK Twice! Save a Life!

ABATE of OHIO, INC.



Region 8

Dice Run



MAY 16, 2026

**CASH PRIZES
FOR
HIGH/LOW
ROLL SCORE**

**START/FINISH
WHISKEY STOP
6509 COLUMBUS RD. NE
LOUISVILLE, OH 44641**

**MUSIC BY:
PARTY IN A BOX
DJ SERVICES
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 9, 2025**

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: Terry 330-806-0863 Hillbilly Jim 330-407-8209

ABATE of Ohio Inc. is a 501(C) 4 "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

Region 16

Ashland, Holmes, Lorain, Medina, Richland, Wayne

Out of Hibernation Gathering

3 PM - 6 PM

Saturday

April 25, 2026

ABATE Region 16 is hosting its annual Out of Hibernation Gathering at the American Legion in Holmesville (9150 State Route 83).

Our Drawing for the Raffle will be at 5 pm on April 25, 2026.

First Prize: \$500

Second Prize: \$300

Third Prize: \$200

ABATE of Ohio Inc.

(American Bikers Aimed Towards Education)

is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the rights, improving the image, and promoting safe operating procedures of Ohio Motorcycles.

You are invited to attend the monthly meeting for Region 16 which occurs on the second Sunday of every month at 12 noon at the Wooster Muddy's.

**LOOK TWICE
Save A Life!**



ABATE of Ohio, Inc.

ABATE of Ohio, Inc. events are subject to a thirty percent administration fee.



For More information Contact:

—> Cowboy at 330-201-1330

—> Kevin Ketcham @ 330-520-1080

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330-567-2121

Whitman
TG & E, LLC
Wooster, OH
330-317-0643

Fisher Auto
Wooster, OH
330-262-3700

American
Legion
Post #551
Holmesville, OH
330-279-3040



Region 8 Membership meeting with new director Sherry Hill.



Here is a picture of Farmer, Gary Sellers and Rick "Diek" Dieguez taken at the Meeting of the Minds 1991 in Ames, Iowa



Region Zero... T A Brown - Director

We're having a heck of a bash on Feb 21st, look for the flyer for our annual Meltdown Party. Next regular membership meeting is February 14th @ 1pm in beautiful Newton Falls @ the VFW. And we're in the process of bringing back the "Not just another DAMN Run" on June 27th. Consider this your "Save the date" card.

Region 8... Sherry Hill - Director

We had our first meeting of the 2026 calendar year on January 4, 2026.

Met at Morrie's and we always appreciate those who allow us to meet and sort of take over their place for a bit. Thank you! If you are in the Canton area they are known for an awesome pork chop, so stop in!

Meeting went very well and a lot of stuff was gone over. We look ahead to see what is going on in our Region and set the year. We will not be having a Spring Fling this March. Our new Products officer, Terry, is off to a great start, selling products at his first meeting with the help of Kat our Events Officer. A few pics from our meeting are in here somewhere.

By the time you read this we will have been set up at the Stark County Swap Meet. Hope we got to talk to a lot of people and signed new members!

Our next meeting is most likely going to happen before you read this but we will be at Ricardo's in New Philadelphia on February 1, 2026 at 1pm if you'd like to join us! Take care and Happy Valentines Day!

Region 16... Kevin Ketchum... Events director

Ok here we go!!!!!!

Region 16 Meeting

5 people in attendance

Cowboy...KevinSally....Sally ...Dan

Meeting started at 12 pm

Director ...We will have the fliers on Tuesday back from the printers...Will get them out..

Quick meeting today...All the sponsors on the flier have paid

American Legion meeting for the gather coming up

Swap meet in Canton on the 25th of the month...We will be joining in with Region 8

Dan gave the treasurer report....

Events...Kevin.....swap meet in a few weeks.....its winter!!!!!!

Still have raffle tickets for sale!!!!!!

Our gathering is on the ABATE website

Meeting adjourned 12:52....



The Distinguished Gentleman's Ride is a fun day of motorcycle riding for a great cause. This charity motorcycle ride unites classic and vintage style motorcycles, dapper dressed riders, and riding to raise funds and awareness for men's mental health and prostate cancer research.

Taking place around the world, and in all 50 of the United States!
(check the event website for details on ride(s) in Massachusetts)

<https://www.gentlemansride.com/>



MOTORCYCLE RIDERS FOUNDATION 2026 Meeting of the Minds



SEPTEMBER 24-27, 2026

Milwaukee
WISCONSIN

HOSTED BY ABATE OF WISCONSIN

JOIN US!

Topical Presentations
Sixteen Information-Packed Workshops
Capitol Hill Updates
And much more!

FIRSTTIME ATTENDEE DISCOUNT

First-time attendees, between the ages of 18-35, receive a discount*

Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel

375 S Moorland Rd, Brookfield, WI 53005

Room reservations, call 262-364-1100 (use group code "MRF")

Rooms are \$129/day, plus taxes & fees. (Cut-off date: Sept. 4, 2026)

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

Pre-registration (must be received by Sept. 4, 2026): \$100.00 (current member) / \$120.00 (non-member)

Registration rate after Sept. 4, 2026: \$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.

**See registration form for details.*



www.mrf.org



www.mrf.org

RIDE WITH THE LEADERS!



Thousands of motorcyclists' rights activists have attended MRF sponsored annual regional and national workshops since 1985. These workshops provide the nuts and bolts, "user friendly" subjects and training to assist motorcyclists in defending, building, and strengthening their grassroots organizations.

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation is proud to present their annual conference for politically motivated motorcyclists! Spend the weekend with some of motorcycling's most educated and dedicated activists. Learn what issues will impact bikers today and in the future!

Use the applications below to join and support the Motorcycle Riders Foundation and to pre-register for the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Minds, September 24-27, 2026.

MRF MEETING OF THE MINDS 2026 PRE-REGISTRATION

(Must be received by September 4, 2026 to qualify for discounted rate)

- PRE-REGISTRATION RATE (before Sept. 4) \$100 Current individual MRF member (before Sept. 4) \$120 Non-MRF member (before Sept. 4)
 \$75 First time attendees (ages 18-35 yrs) (before Sept. 4)
- REGISTRATION RATE (after Sept. 4): \$110 Current individual MRF member (after Sept. 4) \$130 Non-MRF member (after Sept. 4)
 \$85 First time attendees (ages 18-35 yrs) (after Sept. 4)

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

| | | |
|---------|--------|-----|
| NAME | | |
| ADDRESS | | |
| CITY | STATE | ZIP |
| PHONE | E-MAIL | |

Send check or money order to: MRF, PO Box 9090, Peoria, IL 61612 before Sept. 4. After Sept. 4 registration fee increases \$10 per person.
 For room reservations call 262-364-1100 (mention group code "MRF" for conference room rates)

ORDER YOUR MRF MEETING OF THE MINDS 2026 T-SHIRT NOW!

Order your MOTM 2026 t-shirts before September 4 to guarantee size, color & style.

- SHORT SLEEVE:** \$30 | CHOOSE COLOR Black Gray Red | **LONG SLEEVE:** \$35 | CHOOSE COLOR Black Gray Purple
SHIRT SIZE: SM Qty ____ MED Qty ____ LG Qty ____ XLG Qty ____ 2XL Qty ____ 3XL Qty ____ 4XL Qty ____

- Annual Individual Membership \$35
- Auto-Renewal Individual Membership \$35
- Annual Joint Membership \$60
- Auto-Renewal Joint Membership \$60
- Annual Sustaining Membership \$100
- Annual Independent Motorcycle Aftermarket Membership \$100

- 3-Year Individual Membership \$95
- 3-Year Joint Membership \$140
- Sustaining Membership Club \$100
- Auto-Renewal Sustaining Individual \$100
- Freedom Fighter Donation \$10 \$25 \$ _____

Motorcycle Riders Foundation
 PO Box 9090, Peoria, IL 61612



Phone 202.546.0983 mrfoffice@mrf.org
 www.mrf.org

Join and Support Motorcycle Riders Foundation...

- New
- Renewal
- Referred by _____
- Please **check** if you are a US Citizen
- Check here to NOT receive patches and pins
- Check here to NOT receive MRF Email alerts
- Check here to receive MRF Reports electronically (email)



Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____
 Card Number _____ CVV _____
 Expiration Date _____
 Signature _____ Date _____

THANKS FOR READING THE OUTSPOKIN

NOW CHECK OUT WHAT ELSE IS ON OUR WEBSITE

If you want to know why we need patience and persistence, check out "How a bill becomes a law". Then find our accomplishments!

The events calendar keeps you up to date on what's happening, when & where.

ONE CLICK LINKS TO FIND WHO YOUR STATE LEGISLATORS ARE

THERE IS A SECTION THAT INFORMS YOU ABOUT THE LAWS IN OHIO PERTAINING TO MOTORCYCLES, OPERATORS AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

You can learn about our PAC fund and how to request a contribution be sent to a state or local candidate.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ABATE OF OHIO FOUNDATION AND HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DONATION.

THERE IS SO MUCH MORE!
KEEP CHECKING BACK BECAUSE WE'LL BE WORKING ON MORE CONTENT THIS WINTER.

MOTORCYCLE RIDERS FOUNDATION

17TH ANNUAL
MICHAEL "BOZ" KERR



BIKERS INSIDE THE BELTWAY

NATIONAL ★★★
MOTORCYCLISTS'
LOBBY DAY ★★

MAY 18 & 19, 2026

Since 1987, the MRF has been the only national motorcyclists' rights organization dedicated to on-street riders with full-time representation in Washington, DC!
- Ride with the Leaders! -



SCAN FOR MORE ABOUT THE MRF

MAKE YOUR CONGRESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS NOW!
Pre-event briefing: May 18, 2026 • Event: May 19, 2026
Pre-register (FREE) at www.mrf.org (cut-off May 14)

Embassy Suites, 1900 Diagonal Road, Alexandria, Virginia, 703-684-5900,
\$266 per night, incl. breakfast (cut-off April 22). Room block is limited so reserve yours
today! For room reservations call (800) 362-2779 and reference group code, "MRF"

Sponsored by the Motorcycle Riders Foundation | www.mrf.org | 202-546-0983



SAFETY EDUCATION

Hello from the Safety & Ed Director Desk,

Remember now is the time to get ready to register for your Motorcycle Ohio Classes: Registration for the 2026 season will begin January 26, 2026 at 9am! Stark County will be offering training again this year and there are lots of locations across the state. It is a great opportunity to brush up on your skills!

Life is like riding a motorcycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving forward.

Sherry Hill

Safety & Education State Director



Foundation Report



Hi Everyone, The 18th annual ABATE of Ohio Foundation's Harley Giveaway is on its way. This year we are going with the Purple Abyss, two up chrome, 2026 Street Glide. Tickets will be available soon so if you would like some to sell please contact me. If you would like to have the bike at your event or an event in your area, contact me ASAP to get on our calendar the bike is also available if you would like to have it for a period of time to take around your area to show off and sell tickets.

Contact me with any questions or comments.

Thank you all for all you do,
ABATE of Ohio Foundation Chairman

Tim Cordray 330-243-4273

tcordray017@gmail.com

LEGISLATIVE NEWS



As I write this it is in the single digits outside and it is supposed to get down to 0 degrees tonight. Not a very fun time of the year for us motorcycle enthusiasts and bikers. But I guess it is things like this that make us Ohioans a strong-willed people. It is that kind of dedication that is going to make us get Substitute House Bill 357 enacted into law.

This week politicians should be coming back into their respective offices and hopefully by the time you read this you will have received some kind of notification as to the bills status. If not, make one last hard push to contact your house representative and all the committee people one more time.

Here in Region Zero just a couple of weeks ago we lost another brother to a left hand turning driver. The legislators say that making the distracted driving bill stronger with more severe penalties has made a difference in the distracted driving accident rate. That is what we are trying to do with our bill. I hope everyone reading this has made these contacts and encouraged everyone they know to do the same.

Remember, while this issue does seem to impact motorcyclists more, it is not a motorcycle bill. Nowhere does it say anything about motorcycles. It simply makes it a felony to kill someone through their inattentive driving. This is our chance to get this legislation moving. Keep up the good work and remember the life you may save may be a friends, a family member or even your own.

Be safe out there.

Lion Man



FREEDOM RALLY #30

LOCAL CHARITY RECIPIENTS
 HOGS HELPING HEROS
 SAM CENTER
 VFW POST 445 FOOD BANK

ABATE of OHIO, INC.



JULY 10th, 11th, 12th 2026

GATE OPENS 12:00 PM FRIDAY



CARROLL CO. VETERANS PARK/ 2038 BRENNER RD. CARROLLTON, OHIO 44615



PROCEEDS BENEFIT LOCAL VETERANS CHARITIES & YOUR MOTORCYCLE RIGHTS

LIVE BANDS ALL WEEKEND

PRIMITIVE CAMPING
\$30.00 WEEKEND PASS
 INCLUDES 2 NIGHTS CAMPING
\$15.00 DAY PASS
 INCLUDES 1 NIGHT CAMPING
FOOD/ VENDORS
FRIDAY
VETERANS VIGIL 8:15 PM
SATURDAY
FREEDOM RUN 9:00 AM
BIKE RODEO 11:30 AM
BIKE SHOW 2:00 PM
TATTOO CONTEST 8:00 PM



FRIDAY 5 PM



SATURDAY 5 PM



FRIDAY 10 PM



SATURDAY 10 PM

PUBLIC WELCOME !!!!

NO PETS/ NO FIREWORKS/ NO FIREARMS/ NO BOTTLES/ NO HASSLES/ NO ATTITUDES
ANY MRO MEMBER CAN PRE-REGISTER FOR A \$20.00 WEEKEND PASS UNTIL JUNE 14, 2026

18 & OVER PHOTO ID REQUIRED-NO EXCEPTIONS/ WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ADMISSION TO ANYONE

CASH ONLY/ATM ONSITE

CONTACT: freedomrallyregion8@gmail.com

Pre-Registration Passes & RV Reservations/ Tim 330-243-4273/ Vendors/ Kelly 330-327-3513

Golf Cart Reservations Contact Darren Tucker 330-417-7480

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

LOOK TWICE
Save A Life!



ABATE of Ohio Foundation



www.abate.com



SHARE THE ROAD



with

Motorcycles!

Looking Twice
Can Save a Life.

Leavitt Group Midwest

Hit the Road

Find freedom on two wheels!



Stay protected on your ride,
contact us for a quote.

PROGRESSIVE



(614) 545-1665

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Ohio and Pennsylvania, and before
the United States Supreme Court.



Looking Toward 2026 Once-In-Five-Years Opportunity

As we turn the page toward a new year, the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) is energized by what lies ahead in 2026. At the top of the legislative agenda is the Surface Transportation Reauthorization, commonly known as the Highway Bill — a critical federal funding and policy package that Congress updates roughly every five years.

This is the single best opportunity we have to advance our legislative priorities for motorcycle riders nationwide.

The Highway Bill is not just another piece of legislation, it's the framework that determines how federal transportation dollars are spent for roads, bridges, safety programs, transit, and critical infrastructure across the country. It also shapes policy priorities for the next several years and influences everything from highway design standards to safety initiatives that directly affect motorcyclists.

Because this reauthorization only happens once every five years or so, the 2026 process represents our best opportunity during this Congress to embed rider-friendly policies and priorities into federal transportation law.

This is a once-in-a-Congress opportunity to build lasting legislative success for motorcyclists, and your engagement will make a difference.

As it relates to bikers, much of the Highway Bill is written, amended, and negotiated through two key congressional committees with jurisdiction over transportation policy, the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the U.S. House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure.

These two committees play a central role in shaping transportation and infrastructure provisions, including highway safety, roadway funding, and other surface transportation issues.

Over the coming months and into the spring and summer legislative sessions, we expect:

Committee hearings and markups on surface transportation priorities.

Opportunities for grassroots engagement — from contacting lawmakers to participating in advocacy campaigns.

Movement on key rider issues as policymakers negotiate the terms of the next multi-year transportation package.

Because the Highway Bill touches every state and every rider, it's essential that the motorcycle community is heard early and often.

The 2026 Surface Transportation Reauthorization is not just another bill — it's an opportunity that comes along twice a decade for Congress to move many of our legislative priorities forward. We'll be watching every step of the process closely and will send action alerts, updates, and opportunities to engage as this bill moves through Congress.

Stay tuned, stay engaged, and let's make 2026 a breakthrough year for riders.

Happy Valentines Day Everyone!

If you need any assistance in renewing your membership, just contact me. I will help you as much as possible.

In closing, be safe & educated!!!

Till next time

Sherry Hill, Ohio MRF Rep

330-415-6272

shill.ohiomrf@gmail.com





Independent Motorcycle Aftermarket **PROTECT YOUR BUSINESS!**

It's time for independent aftermarket motorcycle businesses to unite and join the *Independent Motorcycle Aftermarket*. The IMA is a growing network of aftermarket shops and suppliers who believe in unity in purpose toward common goals.

Unity in purpose includes:

- ✓ Passage of Right to Repair legislation
- ✓ Protect the right to modify
- ✓ Protect the internal combustion engine
- ✓ Maintain the availability of fuels not harmful to motorcycle engines
- ✓ Fight End of Life Directives

Join your independent motorcycle business owning peers to protect our investment and the future of motorcycling. The *Independent Motorcycle Aftermarket* works with the Motorcycle Riders Foundation and has your back!



www.mrf.org



ALL ROADS LEAD TO THE CITY OF INVENTION

2026 NCOM CONVENTION

MAY 7TH TO THE 9TH



SHERATON SUITES
AKRON CUYAHOGA FALLS
 1989 FRONT STREET
CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH 44221

ROOM RATE: \$159.00



HOTEL RESERVATIONS: (330)-929-3000

****MUST BOOK YOUR ROOM BY APRIL 6TH TO LOCK IN THE ROOM RATE****

 **Pay Your Registration Online at onabike.com**

**PRE-REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY May 2nd
 OR PAY CASH AT THE CONVENTION**

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Name | | Phone | |
| <input type="text"/> | | <input type="text"/> | |
| Address | City | State | Zip |
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Organization | | | |
| <input type="text"/> | | | |

\$120.00 Convention Registration (Includes Silver Spoke Award Banquet)

Please check main course preference: Chicken Beef Vegetarian
 If you do not select a preference, a beef entree will be provided for your dinner.

\$65.00 Registration ONLY (Silver Spoke Banquet not included)

Make checks payable and mail to: Richard M. Lester, 5850 Canoga Avenue, Suite 200, Woodland Hills, CA 91367-6515



Ask Our Lawyer

by Rod Taylor - ABATE Legal Services

WHY WOULD I EVER GO THRU MY INSURANCE COMPANY TO REPAIR MY BIKE WHEN THE OTHER SIDE IS AT FAULT?!

Q. The little old lady with blue hair backs over your motorcycle in a parking lot and causes significant damage. She doesn't know what happened. Here is the question. "Do you turn the claim for repair over to your motorcycle insurance company if you have collision coverage, or do you try to get the lady's insurance company to pay? Good question.

A. Since you are not responsible for the damage – she is – you have some choices if you have collision coverage for your motorcycle. So the first thing is to confirm that you have collision coverage on your bike. If you do, your choice is easy. Turn the claim over to your insurance company. Why, you ask? Since the little old lady caused the damage and it is her fault, some believe that they should make the lady's insurance company pay and leave your insurance company out of it. Wrong. You hired your insurance company to take care of you. Let them.

Here are the advantages of having your insurance company pay, especially during riding season:

1. Most of the time your insurance company has an immediate obligation to pay. Otherwise if you turn the claim over to the other insurance company you have to wait for that company to investigate and determine liability. Then that company has to estimate the damage all of which takes time - your riding time. And good luck getting the adverse to rent you a motorcycle while yours is getting fixed.
2. Your insurance company is on your side and has a duty to treat you more fairly than the other guy's insurance company.
3. Your rates will not go up if you go through your insurance company. Some will tell you to the contrary but they are wrong.
4. The only disadvantage of going through your insurance company is if you have a deductible, you may have to pay that amount before the body shop will let you have your motorcycle, but you can collect the deductible from the other side.

Some states only require \$10,000 of property damage coverage so if your damage and your insurance coverage is more, definitely go through your company.

Here are the disadvantages of going against your insurance company:

1. As said above, you may have to pay the deductible amount to the repair shop before they will let you have your bike, but your insurance company will collect the amount of damage it is owed and your deductible from the lady's insurance company and will send the deductible to you.

You may not be able to collect amounts for the rental of another motorcycle from your insurance company - more about that later.

Here are the disadvantages of going against the other insurance company:

1. It takes time. They have to investigate your claim and determine liability.
2. They may send you to "special estimating" facilities.

They have no duty of loyalty. They are the opposing side. They are the Germans.

MARVELS OF MARVEL MYSTERY OIL - A SECRET MUST FOR MOTORCYCLE STORAGE

When you know you will not be riding for a few weeks/months, stop by an auto parts store or a Walmart and get a quart can of Marvel Mystery Oil. Pour almost the whole can in the gas tank (save about 4-6 tablespoons for later), and then fill the tank up completely with fuel. The Marvel Mystery Oil will act as an upper cylinder lubricant. *(This stuff has been around since the 30s, and most still don't know how it works. Air cooled airplane engines love the stuff. And we all know that the airplane guys got the idea for aircraft engines from us motorcycle guys. If you want to unstick some valves or lubricate sticking valves, this stuff works like magic. Paul Romine, the guy who remanufactured Ford engines for Ford in the midwest and a NHRA Champion, swears by the stuff, and that's enough for me. -Rod)*

Remember that 4-6 tablespoons of Marvel Mystery Oil we held in reserve? Now comes the time to use it. Pull the spark plugs out of the engine, pour a tablespoon of Marvel Mystery Oil in each cylinder, and turn the engine over by hand several revolutions in order to spread the Marvel Mystery Oil around the cylinder walls. Reinstall the spark plugs. Simple steps like these will keep your bike ready for this spring and many more to come! Especially if you own a shovel.

YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY SHOULD PAY THE MEDICAL BILLS - WHY?

****DID YOU KNOW THAT SOME HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL CARE PROVIDERS HAVE THREE PRICES? ONE FOR MEDICARE/MEDICAID - ONE FOR INSURANCE COMPANIES AND FINALLY ONE FOR THE UNFORTUNATES THAT HAVE NO INSURANCE. GUESS WHICH ONE GETS THE BIGGEST BILL? IT ISN'T THE FIRST TWO.***

Q. I was in a motorcycle accident recently, and the medical bills are starting to pile up. The other guy's insurance company won't pay the bills, even though the accident was clearly his fault. I believe it is unfair that my insurance company should have to pay. What should I do about all of these bills? ABATE of Ohio member

A. There are several things you can do to protect your credit rating while you convalesce and try to maintain your household. Of course, you could let the ABATE Legal Services team deal with the insurance company for you! First, notify your motorcycle insurance carrier of the accident, and ask if you have medical payments coverage. If you have this coverage, the insurance company will pay your medical provider if you are injured in an accident, regardless of who was at fault – up to the limits of your coverage. Also, you should notify your health insurance carrier, so that they can pay the balance of the bills for your care.

Many people are reluctant to have their own medical/health insurance cover the bills, especially when it was the other person's fault. Don't let that stop you! You paid insurance premiums for a reason, usually an hour at a time – so use it!

Most insurance companies have policy language requiring reimbursement for your medical bills caused by someone else's fault. If you are involved in an accident, your insurance carrier will send you a letter asserting a "right of subrogation." That is lawyer talk for the right to be repaid from any money you get from the wrongdoer or his insurance company. Basically, the insurance company will pay your bills now in exchange for the right to be repaid from the proceeds of a settlement or judgment against the guy who caused the accident. Almost certainly your contract/policy with the insurance company obligates you to reimburse them for the money they paid for your medical bills from the proceeds of your settlement.

This can work to your advantage, and here's how. Most settlements and judgments are based on the amount of the medical bills the accident victim incurred. And insurance companies understand that the amount of the medical bills is a reflection, however imperfect, of the severity of the injury and factor settlements accordingly.

You should know that insurance companies have previously negotiated rates with health care providers that permit them to pay less than the billed amount for services rendered. While the bill for the hospital may be \$10,000, your insurance company may have only paid \$6,000. In that case, all you are obligated to pay back is the amount actually paid to the medical provider.

And ABATE Legal Services can help. We have had success in negotiating with insurance carriers to minimize or eliminate subrogation repayments, so that \$6,000 subrogation obligation described above could be significantly reduced depending on the facts of your case.

Rod Taylor

ABATE Legal Services



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2025 Day after Bikers Inside Beltway, Senate acts on HJ Resolutions resulting in revocation of waivers to California Air Resources Board (CARB)

2024 MRF leads Congressional Motorcycle Caucus "Ride To Work" on the streets of Washington DC to promote Motorcycle Awareness.

2024 MRF representatives officially appointed to the Federal Motorcycle Advisory Council (MAC)

2023 Six MRF members selected to the "Community of Practice" groups, updating federal motorcycle safety guidelines.

2023 MRF meets with NTSB officials, discussing concerns over Autonomous Vehicles (AV) not recognizing motorcycles.

2022 U.S. House Passes H. Res 366 Motorcyclist Anti-Profilng Resolution

2022 Government funding bill includes language directing NHTSA to report back to Congress on activities and policies related to the profiling of bikers

2022 27 Members of Congress send letter to NHTSA seeking answers on recent crashes involving autonomous vehicles and motorcycles

2022 Inducted into the Sturgis Motorcycle Museum & Hall of Fame

2018 By unanimous consent, the U.S. Senate Passes S. Res 154 – Motorcyclist Anti-Profilng Resolution

2012 National Transportation Safety Board drops motorcyclists from "Top Ten" list

2012 Established the MRF Industry Council allowing aftermarket manufacturers to be more involved with the bikers' rights movement

2009 Held the first national motorcycle lobby day event in Washington, DC



THE ONLY NATIONAL
MOTORCYCLE RIGHTS ORGANIZATION
DEDICATED TO ON-STREET RIDERS



**This just scratches the surface!
For more MRF history, visit MRF.org**



Motorcycle Riders Foundation
PO Box 9090, Peoria, IL 61612
202-546-0983 | mrfoffice@mrf.org

- Annual Individual Membership \$35
- Annual Joint Membership \$60
- Annual Sustaining Membership \$100
- Annual Independent Motorcycle Aftermarket Membership \$100
- Individual Auto-Renewal Membership \$35
- Joint Auto-Renewal Membership \$60
- Sustaining Individual Auto-Renewal Membership \$100
- 3-Year Individual Membership \$95
- 3-Year Joint Membership \$140
- Sustaining Membership Club \$100
- Freedom Fighter Donation \$10 \$25 \$50

Motorcycle Riders Foundation
PO Box 9090, Peoria, IL 61612



Phone: 202.546.0983
www.mrf.org

mrfoffice@mrf.org

It's time you did something more to protect your rights! Join and Support Motorcycle Riders Foundation

- New
- Renewal
- Referred by **ABATE of OHIO**
- Please check if you are a US Citizen
- Check here to NOT receive patches and pins
- Check here to NOT receive MRF Email alerts
- Check here to receive MRF Newsletter electronically (email)



Name _____
 Name of Business _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____
 Visa MasterCard AmEx
 Card Number _____
 Expiration Date _____ CVV _____
 Signature _____ Date: _____

THE 12 HIGH PRIORITY OBJECTIVES FOR THE MOTORCYCLE RIDERS FOUNDATION (MRF)

- **Autonomous Vehicles:** Advocate and monitor any legislation or regulations related to motorcycles concerning connected and autonomous vehicles.
- **Crash Avoidance:** Continue to promote the theme of crash avoidance versus safer crashing, urging the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to focus on crash prevention and support rider education by providing funding and other resources.
- **Data Recording:** Pursue legislative language that any collected or available vehicle data is the property of the consumer and in which the consumer has the choice of whether to opt-in to having their personal data communicated to interested parties.
- **Definition of a Motorcycle:** Educate policymakers and advocate for change to the current definition that better reflects the current two and three-wheel motorcycle landscape.
- **Emission Regulations:** Engage the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) & Congress on any activity related to motorcycle emission regulations.
- **Helmet Laws/Equipment Mandates:** Oppose any mandatory federal helmet or personal protective equipment/apparel mandates.
- **Internal Combustion Engines:** Work to ensure the survival of internal combustion engines.
- **Profiling:** Sustain lobbying efforts for the passage of resolutions or legislation that promote awareness and the prohibition of motorcyclist profiling.
- **Renewable Fuels:** Advocate for targeted changes to the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS).
- **Right to Repair/Modify:** Protect and advocate for "Right to Repair" provisions that allow consumers the ability to repair and modify their motorcycles.
- **Surface Transportation Reauthorization (Highway Bill):** Advocate and pursue legislative efforts related to the next highway bill reauthorization (the current act is set to expire in 2026).
- **Vulnerable Roadway User Terminology:** Monitor and ensure that motorcycles and motorcyclists are a specific and unique category or classification.



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



OHIO ABATE MEMBERS

news

MEMBERS PLEASE SUBMIT

Articles..Pictures..District Information
Pictures.. Run / Party / Shows
This is YOUR publication.

donnasam@zoominternet.net



FEBRUARY

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
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| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
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