

ABATE OHIO

AMERICAN BIKERS AIMED TOWARDS EDUCATION

Terry Wiseman's Bike
REGION 10



OutSpokin'

JUNE 2026

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"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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ABATE of OHIO

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ABATE of OHIO
P.O. BOX 313
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Call the **HOTLINE** anytime for any info or to contact any officer

1-800-25-BIKER

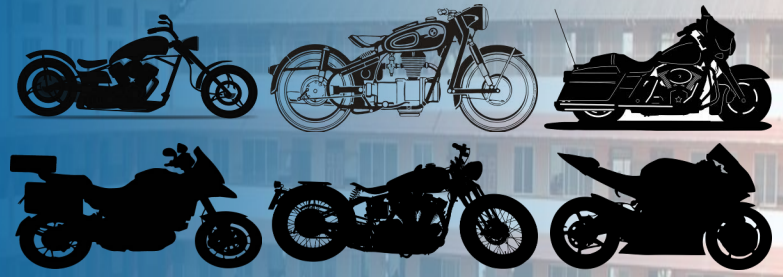
ABATE of OHIO encourages all members to submit letters, articles or cartoons they feel may be of interest to fellow members. ABATE of OHIO supports the rights of ALL motorcyclists, ABATE of OHIO does not endorse any products or services other than its own.

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:

As I write this in the second week in May, it has been a busy beginning of the month. On the second of May, the Legislative Seminar was held at the Ohioan Event Center in Lewis Center, Ohio. In addition to presentations by Lion Man, Sherry Hill and Michele Piko of Motorcycle Ohio; JD Dupler, an independent repair shop owner and dealer gave an excellent report on the challenges the right to repair issue poses for his repair shop. Kirk Willard, President of the MRF, spoke about the issues the MRF is dealing with on the Federal level. Rod Taylor then gave an excellent prelude to the ABATE Legends Program by taking us back to the beginnings of ABATE of Indiana and ABATE of Ohio. An ABATE Foundation report by Tim Cordray followed. Afterward, Heinz von Eckartsberg and Bob Davis (AMA) reported on the latest developments regarding the lane filtering legislation. Thank you to all the presenters for their informative updates. The introduction of the ABATE Legends Program capped off the day, Ed Schetter handling the presentation. For a complete list of the inductees, please refer to Ed's article in this issue. The trip down memory lane was informative for the current members, and was especially meaningful for the inductees, as it honored them for their contributions "back in the day" (long overdue), but it also re-united some who hadn't seen each other for 20 years.

The next day, the Awareness Rally was held, kicking off May as Motorcycle Awareness Month. Mother Nature threw us a bone by giving us a sunshine soaked day in the mid-sixties. About 30 motorcycles made their way to the Statehouse, where there was a ceremony starting Awareness Month. Then it was back to Ohio Brewing Co. for food and drink. Thanks to all who showed up to make a difference.

This year, we attempted something different, having the Seminar and Awareness Rally on the same weekend. Once again, thank you to those who came to the two events. In my opinion, attendance at these events was ABYSMAL. There were entire regions that were not represented at all. **Where were you?** Pissed off that we moved the Seminar? Or the Awareness Rally? Or did you just not give a shit anymore? Very disappointing to say the least.

On the sixth of May we attended the Whitehall City Council meeting to accept their Proclamation for May as Motorcycle Awareness Month in Whitehall.

And finally on the seventh, I drove up to Cuyahoga Falls and spent the day manning the ABATE info table at the NCOC Convention.

Coming up on May 18, 19 and 20, off to DC for Bikers in the Beltway for some lobbying on the Federal level. All these events are primo examples of grass roots political action designed to make a difference.

Please do not forget about HB 357, the Right of Way bill and HB 776, The Lane Filtering Bill.

Get out there and ride, assume you are invisible and ride accordingly.

Kolman Fuzy

Chairofboard@ABATE.com



NGCOM



PRESENTED TO

EDWARD SCHETTER
NGCOM BOARD OF DIRECTORS
HEAD OF LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE
ABATE OF OHIO

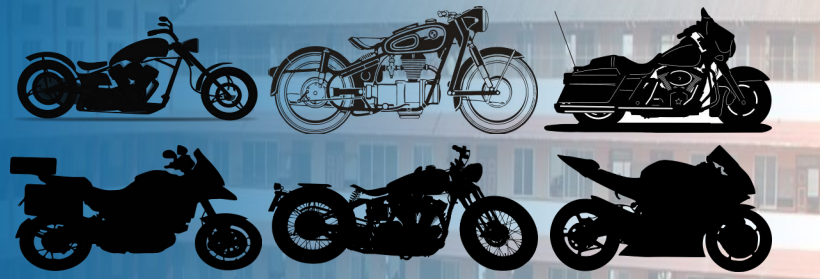
IN APPRECIATION FOR IMPROVING
THE IMAGE OF MOTORCYCLING

RON ROLOFF
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT - 2026



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ed Schetter



We just got through May and what a month.

We started out with the ABATE Seminar. And what a great seminar it was. We had the expected updates on our safety and legislative issues. Tim gave an update on the Foundation and Michelle Piko updated Motorcycle Ohio. We had JD Dupler, the owner of an independent motorcycle service shop in Southeastern Ohio talked about how “Right to Repair” affects shop for a 1st hand account. Heinz, the one who started the push for lane filtering was there. He and the AMA’s Bob Davis fill us in on the process they have been through.

Then we got to the part I will not forget. Rod Taylor spoke about his memories of ABATE of Ohio from the beginnings. And we had our inductions into the ABATE of Ohio Legends Program. The inductees were:

- John “Farmers” Eggers
- Dan Waterfield
- Doug Clark
- Lee Ryan
- Rick “Diek” Dieguez
- Gary Martin
- Gary Sellers

This was particularly recharging for me. These were the leaders here in Ohio and nationally when I joined ABATE of Ohio. Dan Waterfield, Doug Clark, Diek, and Gary Sellers were there in person and were joined by Animal from Region Zero. To see that group setting at a table with Hardtail from the MRF and Hardtail was the rookie was pretty cool. In their comments you could feel the history. Magic

Then the Awareness Rally. Chris and Region 9 had a great set up at Ohio Brewing and a great ride to the State House. Two TV stations came to cover the event and help get the word out. Members of the COC Ohio and the new NCOC NW Ohio joined us for the ride. 3 groups that represent Ohio riding united to the State House for motorcycle awareness. How cool is that.

The next weekend was the NCOM Conference in Akron. Ohio hosting another National Motorcycle Event.

I’m trying to catch my breath while writing this. It’s off to Bikers Inside the Beltway.

Guess I get some rest in June or maybe July. But this is the fun stuff for me.

I’ll ramble on again for you next month when I can get my thoughts straight.
Enjoying the ride

Ed Schetter

Proud & Grateful Executive Director
ABATE of Ohio Inc.

Editor's NOTE

So, because I've filed my Editorial file somewhere that I can't find, I've asked **AI** to write one for me. Here's what I've had written for me:

Perhaps the most enduring virtue of motorcycling is the unique, unforced community it builds. Pass two riders on any road in the world, and you will inevitably see the universal greeting—two fingers dropped toward the pavement. This simple gesture transcends language, age, and social status. It is an unspoken acknowledgment of shared vulnerability and a mutual passion for autonomy.

In a society increasingly fractured by digital tribes, the physical camaraderie of the motorcycling community serves as a vital reminder of how shared passion can unite entirely different people.

Ultimately, we do not ride to escape life, but to ensure that life does not escape us. The motorcycle reminds us that the best parts of our journey are felt when we refuse to sit passively in the passenger seat of our own existence.

Not bad, but not me. Basically, if you want to forget your troubles for a while, be it a long or short while, grab your bike and get on and GO. Somewhere, anywhere. Crank the music or just sing really loud, that's what I do, or at least that's what I want to do. ***But that last paragraph is pretty profound. Read it twice.***

Donna Sam

Call or text 330.540.6210
donnasam@zoominternet.net

OHIO ABATE MEMBERS



MEMBERS PLEASE SUBMIT

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

donnasam@zoominternet.net

BIKER'S REDNECK OLYMPIX

NEW TYPE OF RUN!!! Not a poker or dice run!

**RAIN
OR
SHINE!**

At each stop, play 1 simple game/event 3 times and earn points for each attempt **AND** do 1 lucky activity 3 times to earn additional points!

LOCATION:

The Local Tap and Grill
2242 Greenville Rd NE,
Cortland, OH 44410

DATE:

Saturday, June 27
(Rain or Shine)

TIME:

Sign up from 10AM – 12PM,
Vehicles must return by 5PM,
Dinner served at 5 PM (not before)

VEHICLES:

All vehicles welcome

PRIZES! 2 Categories:

Adults (16 and Over): **CASH PRIZES**
Kids (Under 16): **TROPHIES**

\$10 person

Burgers/Hot Dogs & side dishes



LION MAN
(330) 718-3066

KELLEY BEATTY
330-775-4315

ABATE of Ohio, Inc. is a 501(c)(4) "Not for Profit" organization. All funds are NOT tax deductible.
ABATE of Ohio, Inc. events are subject to a thirty percent administration fee.

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
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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

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www.abate.com

LOOK TWICE Save A Life!



ABATE of Ohio Foundation



WIDOWS SONS

POKER RUN

Benefiting
**HONOR FLIGHT
COLUMBUS**



JUNE 27TH

Registration: 10:30AM • Kickstands Up 11:30AM

START: AMERICAN LEGION POST 532
1571 Demorest Rd • Columbus, OH

END: THE UGLY MUG BAR & GRILL
9645 Basil Western Rd NW • Canal Winchester, OH

RIDER: \$20 • PASSENGER: \$5

Prizes • 50/50 • Raffles

Food • Music • Fun

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HONOR FLIGHT COLUMBUS**

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ABATE OF OHIO STATE SEMINAR



Kirk Willard, MRF President at the Seminar.
Definitely someone to listen to!



Michelle Piko from Motorcycle Ohio,
always a pleasure to have with us.



Our very own LionMan, our very informa-
tive and hard-working Legislative Rep



Rod Taylor, Legal Rep,
usually needs no introduction.



J D Dupler, an independent repair shop owner and dealer sharing his views with us, from Lancaster, Oh Roadhouse Cycles.

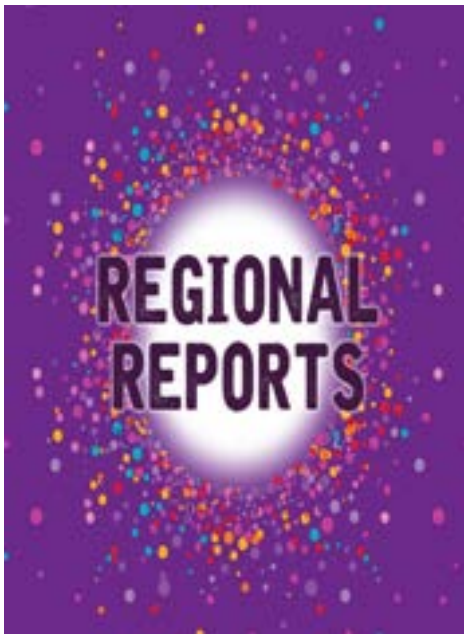


Sherry Hill, Safety & Education and also MRF Rep.



Last but CERTAINLY not least...

KOLMAN, the Chairman of the Board!!



Region 8... Sherry Hill - Director

Happy JUNE from Region 8!

Here is hoping that the weather gods shine on us this summer and provide great weather to enjoy our passion. NO, not mowing! LOL

A group of us attended Region 16's Hibernation Gathering (April 25th) and a great time was had by all. Good food and great friends made for a wonderful time, just sitting around shooting the shit! Thanks, Claire, for pulling my name and no I did not provide any incentive to do so!

We had 8 members in attendance at the annual Seminar in Columbus. Great speakers and a nice lunch to sit and again shoot the shit. Seems we bikers enjoy doing that as much as riding!

Having our region meeting on Mother's Day proved to be a slight issue but we pulled it off and had good attendance. Thanks to all who showed up on such a special day, especially our 2 guests

(Mike & Rusty)! I need to tell you something wonderful though that happened. We were at El Hefe's (who has great food by the way) in Dover. Seated out back we were among a lot of other diners; we apologized to all of them because we were having a meeting. They all were very good sports, but this is the kicker When we opened the meeting and stood for the pledge of allegiance every one of them stood, took hats off and recited the pledge along with us. That moved me so much in my heart. It showed that we still love this country and people stand for it. We will have had our Look Twice Dice Run by the time you read this and I will be attending the Safety Summit in Columbus on the 19th and 20th as well.

Hope everyone had a great Memorial Day and hope we have a great turnout for our Run and our Highway Cleanup.

Sherry Hill, Region 8 Director

Region 16 ... Kevin Ketchum... Events

Nice meeting with 8 people in attendance...Meeting came to order at noon...NCOM is in Akron over the weekend with Kolman and Ed attending from ABATE of Ohio....NCOM is a national motorcycle rights organization...Was told that the State Seminar could have been better attended...Around 30 people...weather could have been better...Same reason we had a gathering and not a poker run...Our "Out of Hibernation" gather was great!!! we had 35 to 40 people enjoying the Holmesville American Legion generosity....Had food and a few games to play...Nice chance to see a few fellow ABATE members!!!! Raffle was drawn..1st place was [Sherry Royer Hill](#)

...2nd place was David Graham ...3rd was Dennis Fortney ...congrats to the winners and thanks!!!!!!

We are now selling the Raffle Bike tickets...They are \$10 each or 6 for \$50.....The state is also selling gun raffle tickets....They are \$50 each...It starts in 2027 and a winner is picked from the Ohio State Lottery pick 3 evening draw once a week.....52 winners!!!!!! Dan gave the treasury report....We have a few events coming up quickly!!!! This weekend is Demo Days at Stinger HD ...We will be set up Friday and Saturday...Bike Night May 21st at the Wooster Eagles Post 811 from 6 to 8 pm...We are thinking of having a ride in the fall....A Covered Bridge ride...More to come on that later.....Meeting adjourned at 1:10...RIDE SAFE!!!!



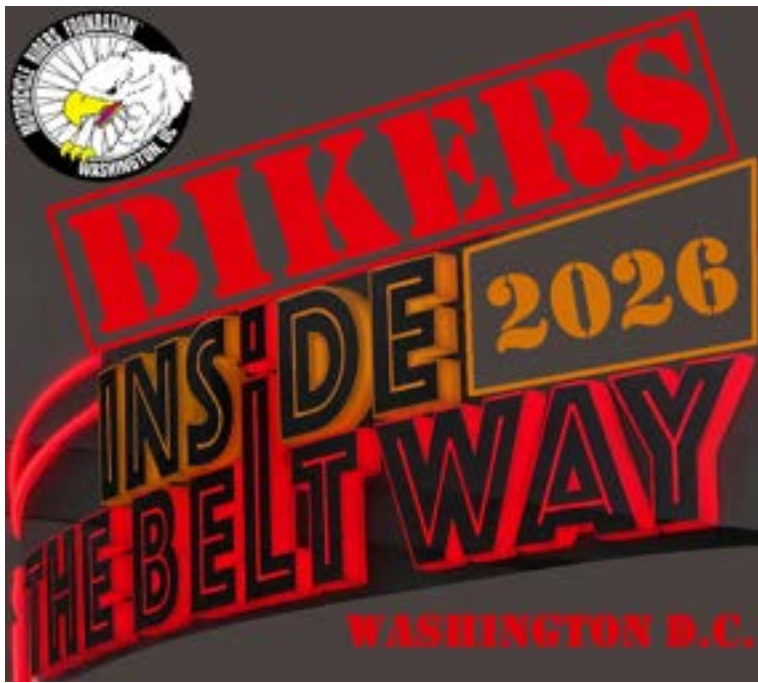
**TO ALL MEMBERS
WITH A BIRTHDAY**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
KEEP DREAMING



**How Do You
Know If You Are
A Happy Biker**

THE BUGS
ON YOUR TEETH



Major Victories

For Motorcyclists On Capitol Hill

This past Tuesday, hundreds of motorcyclists from around the country converged on Washington, D.C. for the Motorcycle Riders Foundation's (MRF) annual Bikers Inside the Beltway grassroots lobby event. During this event, motorcyclists visit every legislative office with a packet of information on priority issues. This year, Bikers Inside the Beltway occurred just as committees were meeting to finalize the surface transportation reauthorization bill,

which happens every five (5) years. This unusual juxtaposition created opportunities for significant input on the upcoming bill.

The MRF now applauds both the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the House Energy and Commerce Committee for advancing H.R. 8870, the BUILD America 250 Act (the highway bill), with measures supporting motorcyclists. The finalized bill will likely contain four of the MRF's top legislative priorities for America's motorcyclists when voted on by the full House of Representatives.

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee advanced provisions extending authorization for the Motorcyclist Advisory Council (MAC), ensuring riders continue to have a formal voice in federal transportation discussions. The legislation also strengthens protections against motorcycle profiling by expanding existing language. It prohibits profiling based on the appearance, mode of transportation or attire commonly associated with motorcycling culture. Special thanks to Representative Andre Carson of Indiana and Representative Chris Pappas of New Hampshire for their last-minute efforts to ensure these victories.

In addition, the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which has jurisdiction over portions of the highway bill, included several motorcycle-related priorities supported by the MRF. Among those provisions are enhanced protections for the Right to Repair, language ensuring emergency braking technologies can detect motorcycles, and the inclusion of the Know Before You Drive Act (H.R. 7377), which helps ensure consumers are informed about what their vehicle's automation technologies can and cannot do before purchasing a vehicle.

The MRF recognizes the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) for its efforts in support of these measures, particularly the input of Zach Farmer. Additionally, the support of the Independent Motorcycle Aftermarket (IMA), whose leader, Bob Kay, remains an outspoken advocate on the Right to Repair and Right to Modify, helping protect riders' ability to access repair information, replacement parts, and independent service options.

The MRF also gratefully acknowledges the ongoing efforts of state motorcyclist rights organizations nationwide, as well as the National Council of Clubs (NCOCC), the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM), the National Council of Informed Riders (COIR), and independent riders everywhere, for their engagement and advocacy efforts on these issues.

“Without riders contacting lawmakers, attending meetings, and remaining engaged in the legislative process, these victories would not have been possible,” said MRF President Kirk “Hardtail” Willard. “This is the first step. It is a big step, but the work is not finished. The full House of Representatives must still pass this legislation, and the United States Senate must retain these protections and priorities for bikers in its version of a highway bill, before it can ultimately be signed into law by the President.”

While the developments of the past week mark an important milestone, the process is far from complete. The MRF will continue working with lawmakers in both chambers of Congress to ensure the rights, safety, and freedoms of America's motorcyclists remain protected throughout the highway bill process



They're Coming For The Aftermarket
Your Livelihood
Your Lifestyle

April 27, 2026

Let's cut the noise - this is a direct hit on the motorcycle aftermarket.

Across this country, independent shops, custom builders, parts manufacturers, and distributors support an estimated 120,000-180,000 American jobs. Not boardrooms bureaucrats - real people, real skills, real businesses built from the ground up.

And right now, that entire ecosystem is in the crosshairs.

Many in the motorcycle industry community - insiders - are pushing for the defeat of H.R. 1566 - the REPAIR Act. The passage of H.R. 1566 will prevent lock-out diagnostics, allow access to parts and data, and allow riders the right to repair, modify, and control their own machines. Defeat of this legislation doesn't just hurt riders - it guts the independent businesses that keep this industry alive.

Make no mistake: if they succeed, small shops close, builders disappear, and the aftermarket gets squeezed out in favor of corporate control.

This is where you draw the line.

Stand up. Speak out. Get involved. Because if the aftermarket doesn't fight back now, there won't be anything left to defend.

Protect the aftermarket. Protect your livelihood. Protect the future of motorcycling.
Answer the calls to action - support H.R. 1566.

<https://www.mrf.org/federal-legislation-issues-1>

Join The MRF

<https://www.mrf.org/join-the-mrf>

MOTORCYCLE RIDERS FOUNDATION 2026 Meeting of the Minds



SEPTEMBER 24-27, 2026

Milwaukee
WISCONSIN

HOSTED BY ABATE OF WISCONSIN

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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)



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 Address _____
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 Expiration Date _____
 Signature _____ Date _____



SAFETY EDUCATION

Michele Piko Director for Motorcycle Ohio gave the first presentation of the day during our Annual Seminar. She went over crash data, class numbers, and the new E Online classroom.

She said the same thing that I have been saying, that 49% of the time we are our own worst enemy. We drink and ride or we speed and fail to negotiate a turn. Now I am not saying that 100% of the time every crash is our fault, but we really MUST do better. Why do I say that? Well, when NHTSA and other government agencies look across the board and see what I see they are going to start pushing for more oversight. They are going to place us in the vulnerable road user category and while we are more vulnerable, we don't really want to be put in that classification. As it comes again with more oversight and the possibility of pushing a national helmet law etc.

I gave a presentation on "The Art of Motorcycling" and it was a broader national view on some statistics, then I spoke about Helmets (yeah yeah), proper gear, T-CLOCS, cornering and braking.

There are still plenty of classes open through the summer into fall, now is time to take either a basic refresher course thru Motorcycle Ohio or look up Pro Rider in Ohio and take an advanced course. I promise you – YOU WILL LEARN SOMETHING! Might just save your life.

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

Sherry Hill

Safety & Education State Director



CHECK TWICE - SAVE A LIFE
MOTORCYCLES ARE EVERYWHERE!!!

Common causes of motor vehicle vs. motorcycle accidents include:

MAKING LEFT TURNS - Before turning LEFT, **CHECK TWICE** to ensure no motorcycle is coming. You're conditioned to look for cars and trucks, and it is easy to 'overlook' an oncoming motorcycle if you're not looking for one.

PULLING OUT - Before pulling out from a parked position, **CHECK TWICE** by turning your head and **LOOKING** for oncoming motorcycles. Motorcycles need more room and space to stop suddenly than a car or truck.

CHANGING LANES - Motorcycles can easily fit in the blind spots of your mirrors. Put your blinker on and **CHECK TWICE**, turn your head to **LOOK** to ensure there is no motorcycle in your blind spot!

SHARING A LANE - Don't share a traffic lane with a motorcycle. Even though a motorcycle is smaller than a car or truck, they are entitled to their entire lane.

DON'T FOLLOW TOO CLOSE behind a motorcycle - a motorcycle needs more room than a car or truck to stop. Keep a good distance behind a motorcycle, leaving enough room for you to stop.

Help reduce accidents and injuries . . .

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Ask Our Lawyer

by Rod Taylor - ABATE Legal Services

GOING TO A JURY

I get calls from people who have been summoned to jury service. Here are some thoughts on what to expect.

Why is jury service so important?

When you are called to be a juror, you become the most important person in our legal system. In the United States, our justice system is based on the belief that a just and fair result in court comes from having disputes settled by our fellow citizens. We have an obligation

to our fellow citizens to honor the summons and appear at court. Some cases may be more important than others, but to the parties involved, their case is very important, and they deserve to have it decided by honest and impartial jurors.

How are jurors selected?

Usually, persons are called at random for jury service from the list of registered voters in a court's geographical area. In some areas and in federal courts, the list of registered automobile drivers also may be used. Jury trials are held in the United States district courts, the county circuit or superior courts, common pleas court, the municipal courts, or county courts.

What are the different types of juries?

Most jurors will be selected to serve on a petit jury, one that is selected to hear and decide a particular case. If the case is a criminal trial involving a felony (a more serious type of crime), the law requires 12 jurors. In a civil case, a smaller number of jurors (usually six or eight jurors) are selected depending on your state.

Unlike the petit jury, a grand jury hears evidence about alleged crimes, usually felonies, and only decides whether or not a person should be indicted and tried for committing a crime. Also, unlike the petit jury, the grand jury does not decide guilt or innocence. If you are summoned to court to be selected for service on a grand jury, you will probably serve for a longer period of time than if you serve on a petit jury, although in most smaller counties, grand jury duty may only be once or twice a month for a three or four-month period.

What happens when I appear for jury service?

When you arrive at the court, you are directed to a particular courtroom or to an assembly area. Some courts provide a brief orientation talk or video to help acquaint you with the system. All prospective jurors take an oath or affirm that they will answer truthfully and fully questions posed to them by the judge and the attorneys during the selection process.

You are also told a little bit about the case so that it can be determined if any past experience or bias might make it hard for you to be fair. You also have an opportunity to tell the court about anything else that might impact your ability to sit as a juror, including health problems, employment situations, and other obligations in your life. You have the right to respond to questions confidentially to the judge and attorneys, if you wish.

Generally, each side in a case has the right to ask that a certain limited number of jurors be excused without giving a reason. This is called a peremptory challenge. Each side also can make an unlimited number of challenges for cause, or for good reason. When attorneys make these challenges, it is not their intent to personally embarrass potential jurors, but to ensure that they engage jurors they believe will evaluate the case as fairly as possible for their clients.

Can I get out of jury service?

Where there is a will, there is a way, as they say. However, serving will give you an "up close and personal" view of the judicial system. Most states provide exemptions for certain occupations or conditions that would interfere with a juror's ability to serve. If you don't meet one of the exemptions, you will have to show up for duty and participate in the process.

It should be noted that serving on a jury will be one of the most patriotic events of your life and with representative participation in jury service by the populace having declined over the last several decades, jury service is more important than ever.

REVENGE FIRING - IS IT LEGAL?

Q: I work at a local manufacturing shop. I got hurt on the job recently, and filed a worker's comp claim. Shortly after I returned to work, I got fired, and I don't think they had any reason. Also, when they fired me, they didn't pay me my accrued vacation pay. What can I do?

A: Maybe quite a lot. One of the first issues to consider is the reason or reasons you were fired. Generally, employers will give some explanation as to why an employee was being fired. Most states, including Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, have provisions in their statutes that forbid so-called "retaliatory discharge," or being fired for filing a worker's compensation claim. While it may be obvious to us to make the connection between the worker's comp claim and the firing, the employers will often attempt to justify the discharge with evidence that there were other reasons for the discharge. Good record-keeping and sympathetic witnesses can help overcome this hurdle. Penalties for retaliatory discharge can include back pay, reinstatement, and attorney's fees. In addition, the wage claim statutes in Indiana and Illinois also require that, upon discharge, employees are compensated for accrued vacation time, usually by the next scheduled payday. Failure to do so may lead to additional penalties and an award of attorney's fees. The answer is much less clear under Ohio law and may depend on whether the employee is covered by a collective bargaining agreement or employed by a state or municipal agency. There may be disagreements, however, over whether the time has been accrued or not, or how much has been accrued. It is important that you speak to someone about these issues as soon as possible to determine your rights and remedies.

LITIGATION FUNDING, OR HOW DOES AN INJURED BIKER PAY THE MORTGAGE WHILE THE CASE IS PENDING?

Everyone knows that litigation can be expensive. Often, plaintiffs with a strapped budget have a much harder time riding out the storm until a settlement is reached, potentially causing them to settle for less than their case is really worth. Plaintiffs that have sustained injuries and are now disabled may very well need money to live on during the interim period before they receive their settlement. Moreover, an insurance company, or other wealthy litigant, will probably be in no hurry to settle until they reach an agreement more in their favor, regardless of how long that may take. Regretfully, this is where litigation funding may be of service.

Litigation funding companies may advance a plaintiff money for living expenses, medical care, or for whatever else the money is needed for a stake in the final settlement. This type of lending is non-recourse, meaning that in the case the plaintiff loses, they owe nothing to the funding company. They are only liable for repayment from the settlement money they receive. Of course, this is not all bliss, and should only be used as a LAST RESORT. The interest a client may owe on the advancement can be viewed as excessive.

These companies decide interest rates and the amount they are willing to advance based on the merits of the case subject to limitations provided by law. So the stronger the case, the better deal the plaintiff will receive. The longer the case takes to settle, the higher the effective interest rate is going to reach, which begs the question, "does this really level the playing field?" Well, maybe in some cases, and maybe not in others. That industry lends plaintiffs millions and remains unregulated in most states. In some states litigation funding companies ignore laws that protect consumers who borrow from lenders and claim that they are not lenders, but investors. This argument works in some states. The biggest issue with legal financing is a lack of transparency in transactions and providing full disclosure to plaintiffs. The industry has recently taken steps to demystify their respective businesses by volunteering to be regulated—albeit on their own terms.

For now, we think the verdict continues to be out on litigation funding. In the meantime, here are a few pointers if this is an option you need to pursue:

- Talk with your attorney and discuss options before making any decisions.
- Exhaust all other means of financing first.
- Make sure the lender is a licensed financial institution.

Rod Taylor

ABATE Legal Services



Hello June!

ABATE of Ohio Seminar on May 2nd drew great speakers and one of them was our own Kirk (Hardtail) Willard. He spoke at length about what the MRF has done and is doing in Washington led by our fantastic lobbyist Rocky Fox. He really is a great guy and does an excellent job for us all.

Kirk spoke about the Right to Repair which is weighing on all our minds, especially our independent repair shops. He challenged all Ohio's Region Directors to get out to the independent repair shops in their territory and get them signed up with the MRF. It is \$100 for the year and gives us all more legs to stand on when it comes to Washington DC.

If any Region Director needs information or any assistance to talk to these repair shops, ask me. I can get you information and talking points.

We all need to stick together and work together towards our common goal of: Riding what we want, where we want, when we want and with whomever we want.

If you need any assistance in renewing your member-

just contact me. I will help you.

In closing, be safe & educated!!!

ship,

Sherry Hill, Ohio MRF Rep

330-415-6272

shill.ohiomrf@gmail.com





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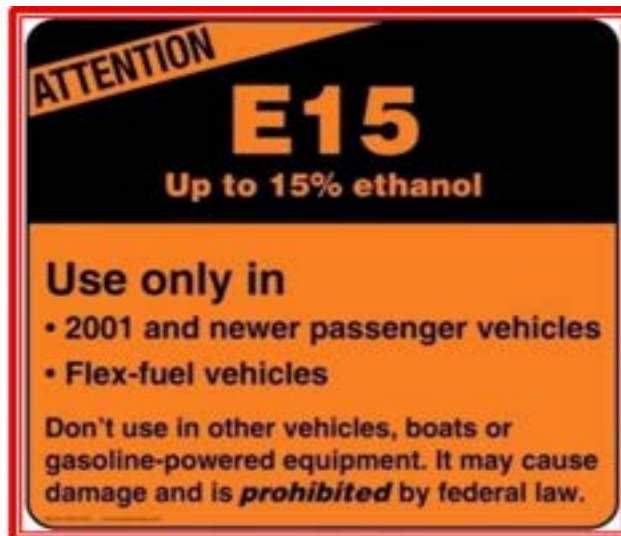
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NATIONAL NEWS



Update On The E15 Debate

May 8, 2026

Capitol Hill is once again the battleground for a growing debate over the future of America's fuel supply, this time centered on whether to allow the year-round sale of E15 (a gasoline blend containing 15% ethanol) nationwide.

Currently, federal regulations restrict the sale of E15 during the summer months due to concerns related to emissions. However, in recent years, several states have been granted waivers or special allowances to permit the year-round sale of E15. What was once a limited exception is now being used as the foundation for a broader legislative push in Congress to make permanent, nationwide access to E15 a reality.

Supporters of the change point to potential cost savings at the pump and benefits for domestic ethanol producers. But for motorcyclists, the issue is far more complicated and concerning.

Most motorcycles on the road today are designed and tested to run on E10 fuel, a gasoline blend containing 10% ethanol. Higher ethanol blends, including E15, are not approved for use in many motorcycles and small-engine vehicles. The risks are well-documented: increased wear on engine components, fuel system damage, and in some cases, manufacturer warranties voided.

These are why the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) is actively engaged in this fight.

A central pillar of the MRF's legislative agenda is ensuring the continued, widespread availability of E10 fuel. As Congress considers expanding E15 sales, the MRF is working to make sure that motorcyclists are not pushed to the margins of the marketplace.

The concern is straightforward: as E15 becomes more prevalent, E10 could become harder to find. Without proper safeguards, riders may face fewer fueling options or an increased risk of inadvertently using incompatible fuel.

The MRF is urging lawmakers to take a balanced approach. Any legislation expanding E15 must also include provisions that guarantee access to E10, improve pump labeling, and prioritize consumer awareness, especially for those operating vehicles not designed for higher ethanol blends.

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NATIONAL NEWS



Highway Bill In May *June*?

April 24, 2026

The road to a long-term highway bill has taken yet another turn and for motorcyclists, the timing may be working in our favor.

At the start of 2026, many in Washington anticipated that the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee would roll out a draft bill by February or March. When that didn't happen, attention shifted to late April, with fresh rumors that lawmakers could begin consideration before the end of April. That timeline has now slipped again.

Committee staff report that a draft bill and markup are unlikely until at least May, as competing priorities continue to delay action. While that kind of uncertainty is nothing new in Congress, this delay creates a rare and important alignment for the motorcycling community.

Because as Washington hits the brakes, motorcyclists are gearing up for Bikers Inside the Beltway.

May is Motorcycle Awareness Month and also when the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) hosts Bikers Inside the Beltway. This event brings riders from across the country to Capitol Hill to meet directly with lawmakers and their staff. This year, that advocacy effort is aligning with the moment when Congress is expected to finally turn its attention to the highway bill.

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation is hopeful that lawmakers will take up the bill during or immediately following Bikers Inside the Beltway, when the voices of riders are most present in Washington. At the same time, the MRF recognizes that movement could come just before attendees arrive in D.C., making early engagement and preparation even more important.

Either way, the message is the same: timing matters.

Whether the process begins just before, during, or after Bikers Inside the Beltway, motorcyclists have a critical opportunity to shape the conversation. Being engaged, informed, and ready to meet with lawmakers ensures that rider priorities are heard at a key moment in the legislative process.

In a year full of shifting timelines, one thing remains certain, motorcyclists will be heard in Washington when it counts.

Join The MRF

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NATIONAL NEWS



An Exodus On Capitol Hill

April 17, 2026

According to new reporting, a remarkable 58 members of the U.S. House have already announced they will not seek reelection ahead of the 2026 midterms. That's more than one in eight lawmakers, an extraordinary level of turnover this far out from Election Day, and the highest in more than a decade. Additional vacancies will be created by those lawmakers leaving due to scandals or death.

It's not just the number that stands out. It's the timing, the pace, and the implications.

Members are leaving earlier than usual, some stepping away after long careers, while others chase new opportunities in the Senate or governors' mansions. Redistricting has reshaped political maps, making some districts unfamiliar or unwinnable. And beneath it all is a broader trend, an aging Congress where more lawmakers are simply deciding it's time to go home.

Even influential figures like Sam Graves, a key player on transportation policy, are heading for the exits. With each departure, decades of experience and carefully built relationships leave with them.

For most Americans, this kind of turnover might feel like just another political storyline. But for the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) and the millions of riders it represents, it's something much more consequential.

Because in Washington, relationships are everything.

Over the years, motorcyclists have worked hard to build a network of lawmakers who understand that riders are not just another category of road user. They are a distinct part of the transportation ecosystem, with unique safety concerns and policy needs. Those relationships don't happen by accident, they are built meeting by meeting, conversation by conversation, often over the course of many years.

Now, many of those relationships are disappearing.

In their place will be a new class of lawmakers, men and women who may have never considered how infrastructure design affects a rider, or how emerging vehicle technologies interact with motorcycles, or why federal policy must account for those differences. They won't come to Washington with that knowledge. They will have to learn it.



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NATIONAL NEWS

Moments of high turnover are rare, but when they come, they offer a chance to shape the conversation from the very beginning. Before priorities are set. Before assumptions take hold. Before other voices fill the void.

That is why this year's Bikers Inside the Beltway carries a different kind of weight.

This isn't just another fly-in. It's not just another round of meetings. It is, in many ways, a reset.

When riders walk the halls of Congress during Bikers Inside the Beltway, they won't just be reinforcing old relationships, they will be introducing themselves to the future of Congress. They will be sitting down with lawmakers who are still forming their views, still deciding which issues matter, still learning who to trust.

Those first impressions matter. In many cases, they last.

As lawmakers retire, those who stay will shape transportation policy in the years ahead. This wave of retirements signals the end of one era on Capitol Hill. For motorcyclists, it also marks the beginning of another.

The question isn't whether Congress will change, that is already happening. The question is whether riders will be part of that change from the start.

Because in a year like this, showing up isn't just important. It's everything

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<https://www.mrf.org/join-the-mrf>



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



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



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- Annual Individual Membership \$35
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- 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

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STATE CHARTER GOAL

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



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One of the top recent success stories for the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) has been the passage of Resolutions in both the House of Representatives and the Senate, denouncing the practice of profiling motorcyclists by law enforcement. One key partner in achieving these two victories was the Motorcycle Profiling Project (MPP), which conducts an annual survey of motorcyclists nationwide on this topic. The survey's data has been acknowledged directly within the federal legislation and proved invaluable to its passage.

The MPP survey is not for motorcyclists who have been profiled; it is for everyone who has an opinion on the topic of motorcyclist profiling. The survey is renewed annually with changes to the questions to keep it relevant. The MPP survey