

Motorcycle
Riders
Foundation



14TH ANNUAL
MICHAEL "BOZ" KERR

Bikers Inside the Beltway

NATIONAL ★★★
MOTORCYCLISTS'
LOBBY DAY ★★

Flexible & Moving Forward!

May 15 & 16, 2023

Educating members of Congress with a
focused message regarding issues impacting
motorcyclists and the future of motorcycling!

Pre-event briefing: May 15, 2023 • Event: May 16, 2023
Pre-register (FREE) at www.mrf.org (cut-off May 1)

MAKE YOUR CONGRESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS NOW!

Embassy Suites, 1900 Diagonal Road, Alexandria, Virginia
703-684-5900, \$219 per night (cut-off May 12) ROOMS LIMITED!

Sponsored by the Motorcycle Riders Foundation
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SCAN ME



BIKERS INSIDE THE BELTWAY 2023 MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Tuesday, May 16, a typically gorgeous spring day in Washington, D.C., and a brisk walk to the Metro added appreciation to the cool fifty-four degrees to begin a 9-hour day that would make Bikers Inside the Beltway 2023 stand above all previous trips to Capitol Hill.

1

Focused mission to attend in-person meetings with as many members of Congress as possible to thank them for their ongoing support and share the 2023 legislative goals of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation. All meetings were by appointment and when meetings were not possible, the team left position papers with key staff members.

8,600,000

Number of registered on-street motorcycles in the United States. And yes, the Motorcycle Riders Foundation is the only full-time voice on Capitol Hill. That voice has been listened to and respected in individual meetings and Congressional hearings since 1986! The Motorcycle Riders Foundation is making a difference and the 2023 Bikers inside the Beltway is proof that the collective voice of American street riders is being listened to.

34

The number of state motorcyclists' rights organizations (SMRO) represented at Bikers inside the Beltway 2023.

135

The total number of motorcyclists attending Bikers Inside the Beltway 2023 who met with over two hundred members of Congress in a 24-hour blitz.

14

The number of years Bikers Inside the Beltway has existed. Plans are in the works to make number 15 even more effective in 2024!

535

The total number of congressional offices visited by attendees of Bikers Inside the Beltway 2023

38

The number of Annual Meeting of the Minds conferences conducted by the Motorcycle Riders Foundation since 1984, number 39 will take place in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, September 21-24.

5

The average number of miles walked by each attendee during Bikers Inside the Beltway 2023 while visiting offices of members of Congress

16

Total number of workshops/break-out sessions scheduled for Meeting of the Minds 2023.

100+

The number of inquisitive looks and hesitant questions from passersby, Capitol Police, and Capitol employees doing double takes as they came upon the Bikers inside the Beltway team of SMRO supporters, MRF Sustaining Members, and National Council of Clubs representatives.

7

Top MRF policy concerns that include but are not limited to: Right to repair; preserving the internal combustion engine; profiling of bikers; autonomous vehicles; ethanol mandates; the definition of a motorcycle; and the creation of a Motorcyclist Advisory Council within the Department of Transportation.

The MRF's annual Meeting of the Minds conference brings together a collection of the best minds and most dedicated and determined motorcyclists' rights advocates ever assembled. These are street riding motorcycle enthusiasts with a collective passion to promote and protect motorcyclists' rights and the future of motorcycling.



Executive Director's Report

July 2023

Biker inside the beltway 2023

- We Came
- We Saw
- We Made The Voice of Ohio's Bikers Heard

Rolled into the Embassy Suites in Old Town Alexandria, VA the evening before our national lobby day. Kolman Fuzy and I were joined this year by Elizabeth Roller at the prep meeting for Bikers Inside The Beltway. I was surprised by the turnout. This was the biggest attendance in all the years I've done this event. There were 34 states represented, again the most I've seen. Jay, Hardtail, Rocky and others with the MRF distributed the materials we were going to review with various offices we were about to visit and discussed our plans for the day.

The next morning Kolman and I rallied up to hit Capital Hill after a proper breakfast. I hear talking to legislators on an empty stomach is very dangerous. Then a quick walk across the street, a minimal amount of swearing at the pass machine for the train in and we were on our way to DC.

We met up with Elizabeth at the Hart office building, cleared security and were on our way to the first meeting with Sen. Sherrod Brown's office. The meeting went well, as did all our visits on this day. After the meeting I started the hike to the House side while Kolman and Elizabeth headed to Sen. JD Vance's office to drop information off. They had the fortune of running into Sen. Vance in the hallway. On the House side we started in Rayburn Office Building and met with the offices of Rep. Michael Turner, Rep. David Joyce, Rep. Brad Wenstrup and Rep. Bill Johnson all before lunch. After a recharge of pizza and a seltzer we had afternoon visits with the offices of Rep. Jim Jordan, Rep. Marcy Kaptur, Rep. Mike Carey, Rep. Max Miller, Rep. Warren Davidson and Rep. Robert Latta. We also had a great visit with Ohio's Favorite Rep. Troy Balderson. I had to be careful because you get a politician and a guy in the car business talking, we might get off schedule. We also stopped by the offices of Rep. Greg Landsman, Rep. Joyce Beaty, Rep. Shontel Brown and Rep. Emilia Sykes without an appointment to present information to anyone that would listen. By the end of the day all 17 Ohio legislative offices had been visited. (and my feet were tired).

Once you go inside any of the House Office Buildings; Rayburn, Longworth or Cannon you don't have to go back outside. They are all connected by tunnels to save having to go through security every time you change buildings.

With all 34 states represented all 435 House offices and 100 Senate offices were visited in one day going over the issues and what we are asking to be done. We have had some big victories over the years and we want to keep that momentum going.

The policy issues we discussed were:

- HR 1435 – Preserving Choice In Vehicle Purchases Act. Prevent the ban on internal combustion engines. Ohio has 7 co-sponsors on this bill, a number only behind Texas. Way to go Ohio.
- HR 906 Repair Act. Protect our ability repair or modify the vehicles we buy or use an independent shop.
- Seat the Motorcycle Advisory Council. Gives motorcyclist a seat at the table with the Dept. Of Transportation/
- Remain Vigilant on the Profiling of Bikers.
- Automated Driving Systems. Mike sure we have a safe spot on the road as transportation advances into the future.
- Reexamining The Definition of a Motorcycle. This has not been amended since 1967. Have things changed in %% years?
- Fuel Transparency and Consumer Protection. Proper labeling of ethanol content and education on what levels are safe for what application.
- Joining the Motorcycle Caucuses.

By the time we got back to the hotel it was time to turn in our visit follow up slips, get some food, rest and maybe have an adult beverage.

My thanks go out to Kolman and Elizabeth for joining me on the adventure. The pace is hectic. We have an appointment every 30 minutes all day long and have to present a lot of information in 15 to 20 minutes, that's all you get. And a whole bunch of walking. Ohio had a great day and I look forward to next year and welcome anyone wanting to join.

Looking at how long I've rambled on about BITB I'll keep anything further for next month.

Enjoying the ride,
Ed Schetter
Executive Director
ABATE of Ohio Inc.